



22


THE SPIRIT

BY
WILL
FISHER

**The
Spirit...
Blinded!**



Will Fisher
19



IF GOD REQUIRES THAT
MEN HONOR THEIR
AGREEMENTS...



...THEN
IS NOT
GOD,
ALSO,
SO
OBLIGATED
??

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By
Will EISNER



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THE SPIRIT

BY WILL EISNER

Editor-in-Chief: WILL EISNER • Editor & Publisher: DENIS KITCHEN • Assistant Editor: CAT YRONWODE

Page 2... **SPIRIT CHECKLIST.** At last, a comprehensive guide to all the Spirit stories. To be continued in future issues.

Page 4... **LETTERS.**

Those readers who have been following The Spirit's adventures for some time now will recall that after his "Showdown With the Octopus" (reprinted way back in Warren's Spirit No.6 and more recently in The Comics Journal No.46), Our Hero was left battered, bruised and blinded by his arch-foe. Didja ever wonder what happened next? Well, now it can be told! Read on...

Page 5... **BLIND.** Bugg-Eye, Little Snead, Murder McCoy and Rubber-Lips plan to bilk G.I.s in a phony apartment scheme and leave Dolan a pulpy mess. And the sightless Spirit is helpless to act. Or is he?

Page 12... **A KILLER AT LARGE.** A small mutt stands accused of killing the new dog catcher. But Ebony and The Spirit follow the trail elsewhere.

Page 19... **INTO THE LIGHT.** Things continue to look dark. The Spirit, still blind, is kidnaped by a deadly nemesis: Carrion.

Page 26... **LIFE ON ANOTHER PLANET, Chapter Four.** Multi-national Corporation, a bankrupt African nation, and the Star People cult combine to exploit the signals from space, forcing Bludd into an unexpected alliance. *Sixteen more pages of brand new material from Will Eisner!*

Page 42... **PERFECT CRIME.** A paranoid hood named Baxter, though well-prepared, is no match for a bedridden Spirit.

Page 49... **JAM: Eisner's Vault.** This collaboration between Will Eisner and Denis Kitchen offers readers an explanation for the mix-up that caused Chapter 3 of the Wally Wood Spirit series to run in the last issue of this magazine instead of Chapter 2.

Page 50... **OUTER SPACE.** This is the *real* Chapter 2 of the Wally Wood serial. See the letters page and jam page for more details. Go back to Spirit No.21 to read the *next* chapter. Whew!



AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

As of this issue, THE SPIRIT magazine intends to take itself much more seriously as a repository of classic and otherwise unobtainable comic book art. In the past, particularly when Warren was publishing it, many multi-part stories were run in disjointed form or presented with crucial chapters missing, much to the consternation of continuity-minded fans. In the future we will be making every attempt to keep such multi-part stories intact — even if it means re-printing an isolated episode which was run out of context by Warren. Don't worry, this doesn't mean that we've run out of stories and will have to resort to repetition — in fact, just the opposite is true! We've gotten a lot of requests from readers to run reprints of some of the really rare pre-war SPIRIT stories but up until now we've had to reluctantly refuse because the original artwork for these was lost a long time ago and reproducing them from halftones of old and often out of register newspaper sections would be both expensive and not up to the level of quality we want to maintain. However, a most remarkable and unexpected development has just come along and changed all of that — believe it or not, a long-forgotten stash of clean reproducible PHOTOSTATS of some of the very best of Will Eisner's pre-war SPIRIT artwork has just been discovered!! The full story of how associate editor cat yronwode, following an anonymous tip from a man purporting to be Police Commissioner Eustace P. Dolan (but who was obviously an imposter), unearthed these lost proofs in an empty grave in Central City's Wildwood Cemetery is a tale for another day. Suffice it to say we are thrilled to announce that NEXT ISSUE we will be featuring THE ORIGIN OF SILK SATIN in a never-before-reprinted story from 1941, in addition to our regular selection of Eisner's post-war SPIRIT classics, Wood's "Outer Space," chapter 5 of "Life on Another Planet" and part 2 of The SPIRIT Checklist. See you then!

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THE SPIRIT CHECKLIST

BY CAT & YRON WODE

ABBREVIATIONS OF COMICS AND MAGAZINES

CM	Comic Media	IW/P	IW Plastic Man	SB	Spirit Bag
E	Eerie	K	Kitchen Sink Spirit	SCB	Spirit Coloring Book
FH	Fiction House Spirit	M	Modern Comics	SM	Spiritman
H	Harvey Spirit	P	Police Comics	TCM	3 Comics Magazine
IW/S	IW/Super Spirit	Q	Quality/Vital Spirit	W	Warren Spirit

**ACTION
Mystery
ADVENTURE**

Sections 1 through 100: Scripts, Pencils and Inks by Will Eisner, except Section 31: Script by Will Eisner, Art by Will Eisner and Bob Powell. Lettering on Sections 1 through 3: Zoltan Szenics [?], Sections 4 through 100: Sam Rosen. Colouring: Joe Kubert.

SECTIONS 1 THROUGH 32 – SEVEN PAGE STORIES

1. 6/2/40. ("The Origin of the Spirit") P 11 (C), SB 1/1 (B&W HT)
2. 6/9/40. ("The Return of Dr. Cobra") SB 1/2 (B&W HT)
3. 6/16/40. ("The Black Queen") P 12 (C), SB 1/3 (B&W HT)
4. 6/23/40. "Voodoo in Manhattan" Bootleg Bag (B&W HT)
5. 6/30/40. ("Johnny Marston") P 13 (C), SB 1/4 (B&W HT)
6. 7/7/40. ("The Black Queen's Army") SB 1/5 (B&W HT)
7. 7/14/40. ("Mr. Midnight") P 15 (C), SB 1/6 (B&W HT)
8. 7/21/40. ("Eldas Thayer") P 14 (C), SB 1/7 (B&W HT)
9. 7/28/40. "Palyachi, the Killer Clown" P 16 (C), SB 1/8 (B&W HT)
10. 8/4/40. ("The Death Dolls") P 26 (C), SB 1/9 (B&W HT)
11. 8/11/40. ("The Kidnapping of Daisy Kay") SB 1/10 (B&W HT)
12. 8/18/40. ("The Morger Boys") P 22 (C), SB 2/1 (B&W HT)
13. 8/25/40. ("The Orphans") P 17 (C), SB 2/2 (B&W HT)
14. 9/1/40. ("Orang the Ape-Man") SB 2/3 (B&W HT)
15. 9/8/40. "The Return of Orang, the Ape That Is Human!" SB 2/4 (B&W HT)
16. 9/15/40. ("Ebony's X-Ray Eyes") P 23 (C), SB 2/5 (B&W HT)
17. 9/22/40. ("Gang Warfare") P 18 (C), SB 2/6 (B&W HT)
18. 9/29/40. ("Oriental Agents") P 21 (C), SB 2/7 (B&W HT)
19. 10/6/40. "The Master Mind Strikes" SB 2/8 (B&W HT)
20. 10/13/40. "The Spirit! Who Is He?" SB 2/9 (B&W HT)
21. 10/20/40. ("Ogre Goran") P 20 (C), SB 2/10 (B&W HT)
22. 10/27/40. "Conscription Bill Signed" SB 3/1 (B&W HT)
23. 11/3/40. "The Manly Art of Self Defense" SB 3/2 (B&W HT)
24. 11/10/40. ("The Kiss of Death") SB 3/3 (B&W HT)
25. 11/17/40. ("Dr. Prince Von Kalm") P 25 (C), SB 3/4 (B&W HT)
26. 11/24/40. ("The Kidnapping of Ebony") P 24 (C), SB 3/5 (B&W HT)
27. 12/1/40. ("The Prom") SB 3/6 (B&W Proof), SCB (B&W Proof; splash page only)
28. 12/8/40. ("The Haunted House") P 19 (C), SB 3/7 (B&W Proof) Comic Reader 170 (B&W Proof, splash, etc.)
29. 12/15/40. ("Slim Pickens") SB 3/8 (B&W HT)
30. 12/22/40. ("The Christmas Spirit of 1940: Black Henry and Simple Simon") SB 3/9 (B&W HT)
31. 12/29/40. ("The Leader") SB 3/10 (B&W Proof)
32. 1/5/41. ("The Black Bow") SB 4/1 (B&W HT), SCB (B&W Proof; splash page only)

SECTIONS 33 THROUGH 218 – EIGHT PAGE STORIES

33. 1/12/41. ("The Silk District Beat") P 29 (C), SB 4/2 (B&W HT)
34. 1/19/41. ("Pancho De Bool & Peppi Tamale") P 39 (C), SB 4/3 (B&W HT)
35. 1/26/41. ("The Conquistadores") SB 4/4 (B&W HT)
36. 2/2/41. ("Davy Jones' Locker") P 38 (C), SB 4/5 (B&W HT)
37. 2/9/41. ("The Substitute Spirits") [refried in 422] P 27 (C), SB 4/6 (B&W HT)
38. 2/16/41. ("Radio Station WLXK") P 28 (C), SB 4/7 (B&W HT)
39. 2/23/41. ("Invasion From Argos") P 40 (C), SB 4/8 (B&W HT)
40. 3/2/41. ("Dead Duck Dolan") P 36 (C), SB 4/9 (B&W HT)
41. 3/9/41. ("Toy Planes") SB 4/10 (B&W HT)
42. 3/16/41. ("Introducing Silk Satin") [refried in 498]
43. 3/23/41. ("Dipsy Dooble") P 31 (C)
44. 3/30/41. ("Captured by the Underworld") P 30 (C)
45. 4/6/41. ("Introducing Scarlett Brown")

46. 4/13/41. ("Croaky Andrews' Perfect Crime") [refried in 345] FH 2 (C; splash page only used as cover, story not reprinted)
47. 4/20/41. ("The S.S. Raven")
48. 4/27/41. "Ellen Dolan Detective Agency"
49. 5/4/41. ("King Kohl, Emperor of the Underworld")
50. 5/11/41. ("A Dull Week") P 37 (C)
51. 5/18/41. ("Marta & the Renaissance Primitive")
52. 5/25/41. ("Thomas Hawkins") P 32 (C)
53. 6/1/41. ("Killer McNobby")
54. 6/8/41. ("5 Passengers In Search of an Author or: The Return of Silk Satin")
55. 6/15/41. ("Dusk & Twilight")
56. 6/22/41. "The Tale of the Dictator's Reform" ("The Hitler Story")
57. 6/29/41. ("The Balkan Ball")
58. 7/6/41. ("Agent 24")
59. 7/13/41. ("Stolen Squad Cars")
60. 7/20/41. ("The Jewel of Death") [partially refried in 509] P 41 (C), The Great Comic Book Heroes "The Spirit in Damascus" (Recoloured)
61. 7/27/41. ("Pink Perkins")
62. 8/3/41. "Wanted Dead or Alive – The Spirit" P 34 (C)
63. 8/10/41. ("The Element of Time")
64. 8/17/41. "The Spirit Am Unfair To His Assistant!"
65. 8/24/41. ("River Lily")
66. 8/31/41. ("Barton Hartsell")
67. 9/7/41. ("Dorothy Heartbern")
68. 9/14/41. "The Biography of a Big Shot: Joe Frisk" [refried in 499]
69. 9/21/41. ("Gogi the Yogi")
70. 9/28/41. ("Women!")
71. 10/5/41. ("Sphinx & Satin") P 33 (C)
72. 10/12/41. ("The Genius") P 35 (C)
73. 10/19/41. "The Oldest Man in the World"
74. 10/26/41. ("Hallowe'en Dusk")
75. 11/2/41. ("The Confession of Monks Mallon")
76. 11/9/41. ("The Killer Ghost")
77. 11/16/41. ("Eustace the Turkey") [refried in 344]
78. 11/23/41. ("Ellen Dolan, Fullback")
79. 11/30/41. ("Golf Girder")
80. 12/7/41. ("The Last of the Minstrels")
81. 12/14/41. ("Ventro")
82. 12/21/41. "Army Operas No. 1" ("Chuck Magoo") Graphic Gallery 4 (B&W Proof, page 2 only)
83. 12/28/41. "The Christmas Spirit [of 1941]: A Trilogy"
84. 1/4/42. ("Gorilla Gage")
85. 1/11/42. ("Mr. Fly")
86. 1/18/42. ("Blowing Up the Dam")
87. 1/25/42. ("The Ebony White Super-Short-Wave Mechanical Spy")
88. 2/1/42. ("The Devil's Shoes")
89. 2/8/42. ("Goopleclutch & Mickleholter")
90. 2/15/42. ("Madam Minx")
91. 2/22/42. ("The Ghost of Post 13") Panels 1 (B&W LS, splash)
92. 3/1/42. ("Aunt Mathilda")
93. 3/8/42. ("Mr. Hush") Panels 1 (B&W HT, splash only)
94. 3/15/42. "For Mayor: Dolan"
95. 3/22/42. "The Men Whom Time Forgot"
96. 3/29/42. "The Weird Case of Dr. Ebony and Mr. White"
97. 4/5/42. ("Drying Up the Reservoirs")
98. 4/12/42. ("The Return of the S.S. Raven")
99. 4/19/42. ("Hinkey's Gang")
100. 4/26/42. ("The Bloody Fang")

Sections 101 through 128: Scripts, Layouts (plus some Pencils and occasional Inks) by Will Eisner, Finished Art by Lou Fine with various assistants, except for Sections 119, 120, 121 and 125: Scripts by Manly Wade Wellman, Pencils by Lou Fine, Inks by John Belfi. Lettering, Sections 101 through 128: Sam Rosen. Colouring: Quality Staff Artists.

101. 5/3/42. ("Self Portrait") Panels 1 (B&W LS, splash)
102. 5/10/42. "Army Operas No. 2" ("Pvt. O'Toole")
103. 5/17/42. "The Man Who Lost His Face"

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN THIS CHECKLIST

(Title)	My title for an untitled Section.	(B&W HT)	Black & white halftone of original Section.	(C)	Colour; same plates as original.
"Title"	Title or headline on original splash; title given to reprint.	(B&W LS)	Black & white line shot of original Section.	(Recoloured)	Colours different than original.
(Title)	Title given in the post-war "Next Week" box.	(B&W Proof)	Black & white from original or retouched art or photostat.	(Retouched)	Minor changes in artwork.
O/O	Issue no./Story no. [Spirit stories only; others ignored].	(B&W Tones)	Black & white with flat tones.	(Redrawn)	Major changes in artwork.
O - O	Issue no. - page no. [only used on titles with page numbers given].	(B&W Wash)	Black & white with wash tones.	(Refried)	Same story, much dialogue same, names may be changed, new art.
		(B&W Zip)	Black & white with zipatone.	(Reprinted)	Same art & story. A Framed reprint has a new framing sequence & some original panels deleted.

104. 5/24/42. ("A Practical Joke")
105. 5/31/42. "Army Operas No. 3" ("Cpl. O'Toole")
106. 6/7/42. ("The Baby King")
107. 6/14/42. ("Sybil, Cecil & Callous Joe")
108. 6/21/42. "His Majesty King Zenix II"
109. 6/28/42. ("Suicide & Saxophones")
110. 7/5/42. "Wanted/The Spirit/For Murder"
111. 7/12/42. ("David De Vere")
112. 7/19/42. "A Crime Primer/M-U-R-D-E-R"
113. 7/26/42. ("The Royal Flush Gang")
114. 8/2/42. ("Professor Pink") P 42 (C)
115. 8/9/42. ("Shoplifters & Sodas") P 43 (Recoloured, due to colourist's errors in original printing)
116. 8/16/42. ("The Shadow of Dusk") Panels 1 (B&W LS, splash)
117. 8/23/42. ("Espionage in Egypt") [although this is the only Section signed by Lou Fine (on the last page), it was actually penciled by Will Eisner]
118. 8/30/42. ("The Return of Scar Cainam")
119. 9/6/42. ("Pink Elephants")
120. 9/13/42. ("Diana the Huntress")
121. 9/20/42. ("Cicero Swunk")
122. 9/27/42. ("Rejected")
123. 10/4/42. "Death Is My Destiny" (refried in 562)
124. 10/11/42. ("Ebony Meets Frankenstein")
125. 10/18/42. ("Corners, Corners")
126. 10/25/42. ("Hallowe'en Spirit of 1942: The Ghost Gang")
127. 11/1/42. ("Lucifer T. Mephisto")
128. 11/8/42. "A Zombie"

Sections 129 through 168: Scripts by Manly Wade Wellman or Bill Woolfolk, Pencils by Lou Fine, Inks by Quality Comics Staff Artists, including John Belfi, Joe Kubert, Aldo Rubano, Jack Keller, Robin King and Alex Kotzky, except for Sections 133, 136, 137, 152 and 153: Scripts and Layouts by Will Eisner, Pencils by Lou Fine, Inks by Quality Staff, and Section 168: Script and Layout by Will Eisner, Finished Art by Quality Staff. Lettering on Sections 129 through 131: Sam Rosen; Sections 132 through 168: Martin DeMuth. Colouring by Quality Staff.

129. 11/15/42. ("Suicide Balcony")
130. 11/22/42. ("The Mock Invasion")
131. 11/29/42. "Improve Your Memory in Ten Easy Lessons"
132. 12/6/42. ("Youth Day") Graphic Gallery 7 (B&W Proof, page 7 only; erroneously credited to Will Eisner)
133. 12/13/42. ("The Parole of Tommy Gates")
134. 12/20/42. ("Amnesia No. 1")
135. 12/27/42. ("Brawler & the Perfesser")
136. 1/3/43. ("The Curse of the Ruby")
137. 1/10/43. ("The Lady in Black or: The Vashi Pearls")
138. 1/17/43. ("Keep Mum On Ship Movements")
139. 1/24/43. ("Schoolboy Stuart")
140. 1/31/43. "June 18, 1940"
141. 2/7/43. ("The Spirit's Super Scrappers")
142. 2/14/43. ("The Brotherhood of Swivets")
143. 2/21/43. ("Automatic Author")
144. 2/28/43. ("The Spirit of Spring")
145. 3/7/43. ("Class Reunion") Q 3/4 "Class Reunion" (C)
146. 3/14/43. ("Byron's Memoirs") P 54 (C)
147. 3/21/43. ("Saul Taylor")
148. 3/28/43. ("Andy Horgan") Q 3/1 "Death Takes Its Toll" (C)
149. 4/4/43. ("Evil Eye Manders") Q 1/5 "The Eyes Have It" (C)
150. 4/11/43. ("The Dollars of 1804") Q 1/1 "Wanted" (C)
151. 4/18/43. ("The Grandfather Clock") Q 1/4 "A Clock Stops" (C)
152. 4/25/43. "The Last Mile"
153. 5/2/43. ("Yellow Eyes Janus") Q 1/6 "Manhunt" (C)
154. 5/9/43. ("Dr. Plague")
155. 5/16/43. ("Policewoman Ellen") Q 1/3 "Dressed To Kill" (C)
156. 5/23/43. ("Tony Zacco") Q 1/2 "Tony Zacco, Public Enemy No. 1" (C)
157. 5/30/43. "The Spirit Ain't Fair" P 48 (C)

158. 6/6/43. ("Terrible Terry Gill") Q 3/5 "Wanted, One Child" (C)
159. 6/13/43. ("Diamonds On Ice")
160. 6/20/43. ("Parrot Puggins") P 50 (C)
161. 6/27/43. "Keep Out" P 45 (C)
162. 7/4/43. ("Marathon Dancers")
163. 7/11/43. ("Three Wishes") P 44 (C)
164. 7/18/43. ("The House of Darkness") Q 4/5 (C)
165. 7/25/43. ("The Spirit Did . . .") Q 2/1 "Framed" (C)
166. 8/1/43. ("The Maestro") Q 3/2 "Music Hath Charms" (C)
167. 8/8/43. ("Shipyard Sabotage")
168. 8/15/43. ("The Last Gang in Rotten Row") P 55 (C)

Sections 169 through 185: Scripts by Manly Wade Wellman or Bill Woolfolk, Art by Quality Staff Artists, including Robin King and Joe Kubert, Lettering by Martin DeMuth, Colouring by Quality Staff.

169. 8/22/43. ("On the Ferris Wheel") Q 4/4 (C)
170. 8/29/43. ("Broadway Lily") P 52 (C)
171. 9/5/43. "The Art of Making Love Ardently" Q 3/3 "An Old Beau Returns" (C)
172. 9/12/43. ("Woman Crooks")
173. 9/19/43. ("Killer Sykes") Q 3/6 "Stormy Weather" (C)
174. 9/26/43. ("Murder on the Job") P 53 (C)
175. 10/3/43. "The Case of the Southpaw Maiden"
176. 10/10/43. ("Ellen Dolan, Murderess") Q 2/4 "Reserved - One Electric Chair" (C)
177. 10/17/43. ("The Magic Drums of the Shonokins") P 46 (C)
178. 10/24/43. ("Who Killed Gloria Drake?") P 51 (C)
179. 10/31/43. ("Death in the Lion Cage") Q 2/2 "Circus Daze" (C)
180. 11/7/43. ("Fronie Pettigrew") Q 2/6 "Brummagen vs. Pettigrew" (C)
181. 11/14/43. ("Vance McVane")
182. 11/21/43. "On Guard!" Q 2/3 "On Guard, Crime" (C)
183. 11/28/43. ("The Killer Nurse") P 47 (C)
184. 12/5/43. ("The Auction") Q 4/2 (C)
185. 12/12/43. ("The Train Wreck")

Sections 186 through 220: Scripts by Manly Wade Wellman or Bill Woolfolk or Jack Cole [the latter only on those he penciled], Art by Diverse Hands, including Jack Cole and Robin King, Lettering by Martin DeMuth, Colouring by Quality Staff.

186. 12/19/43. ("Druce's Time Bomb") Q 2/5 "Death After Death" (C)
187. 12/26/43. ("Cloak and Coffin") P 49 (C)
188. 1/2/44. ("Killer Ketch") Q 10/5 (C)
189. 1/9/44. ("Mrs. Sorrel") Q 10/2 (C)
190. 1/16/44. ("Ebony's Inheritance")
191. 1/23/44. ("Murder by Magic")
192. 1/30/44. ("Circumstantial Evidence")
193. 2/6/44. ("Radio Burglars")
194. 2/13/44. ("Man O' War") Q 11/5 (C)
195. 2/20/44. ("In the Moorish Section of Central City") Q 11/4 (C)
196. 2/27/44. ("Who Killed Sam Wright?") Q 8/5 (C)
197. 3/5/44. ("The Charity Ball") Q 8/4 (C)
198. 3/12/44. ("Double Eagle") Q 9/4 (C)
199. 3/19/44. ("Skelter & Crabb") Q 10/4 (C)
200. 3/26/44. ("Torchy Tyler") SM 2/1 (C)
201. 4/2/44. ("Who Killed Bob Sydel?") SM 2/2 (C)
202. 4/9/44. ("Dead In the Street")
203. 4/16/44. ("Suspended Animation")
204. 4/23/44. ("Rogoff") Q 11/2 (C)
205. 4/30/44. ("The Voodoo of Dr. Peroo")
206. 5/7/44. ("John Magby's Last Will & Testament") Q 9/2 (C)
207. 5/14/44. ("Fifi McCoy") Q 5/4 (C)
208. 5/21/44. ("Black Marx") Q 8/1 (C)
209. 5/28/44. "Beyond the Grave!"
210. 6/4/44. ("Ebony's Piano Lesson") Q 5/2 (C)
211. 6/11/44. ("The Cellini Dagger") Q 7/1 (C)



LETTERS

WRONG WOOD EPISODE!

I think the cover of your 5th issue [No.21] is the best one of all the issues you've published. The positioning of the logo and the fact that it is smaller than on previous issues helps the effect the cover puts across.

You're still publishing those essays on comic art too, I see. I would much rather see some other text piece in the magazine. Eisner should write about what comics were like in the 40's or behind-the-scenes stuff. Anything but those

boring essays.

And someone doesn't know the original dates of the Wally Wood Spirits. In issue No.20 you say the Wood tale was originally published on August 3, 1952. According to Overstreet's Comic Book Price Guide, the story that appeared on that date was titled "Mission...the Moon." I know this for a fact since the first page of this section is reproduced in color in the price guide. In the current Spirit No.21, you have "A DP on the Moon," which appeared on August 10, 1952. This is true--but according to Overstreet, this issue is the last issue of the weekly Spirit ever published. Therefore, how could it be continued, as you claim?

Gary Dunaier

67-18 Parsons Boulevard, Flushing, New York 11365

MYSTERIOUS MISSING CHAPTER

I like mysteries, but this one is almost too much. In your latest issue (No.21) there appears the 2nd episode of "Outer Space." However, a year or so ago I got a copy of a West German magazine called *Comixene*. In that magazine is printed episode one, the same initial episode that you ran. But in that same German magazine there is quite another second episode! How many second episodes are there? Is your second episode not really the third one? Whodunit? Apart from that, keep up the good job with your great publication.

K. Arne Blom

Smaskolevagen 22, S-223, 87 Lund, Sweden

Gary: The "Outer Space" episode in Spirit No. 20 was the first Wood Spirit. Its correct date is July 27, 1952. "Mission...the Moon" is the correct 2nd episode of the Wood story. It should have run chronologically in The Spirit No.21, but the 3rd chapter ("DP") was inadvertently run in its place. We apologize for the error. For the record, Overstreet notwithstanding, the "DP" story is not the last Spirit story. The Spirit serial begun by Wood continues for eleven episodes in all, though not all were drawn by Wood or even by Eisner. We'll run them all. More on this in subsequent issues.

To Arne and the many other readers who saw the error: We goofed. It won't happen again.

LOVES NEW EISNER STORY

I now own all of the Kitchen Spirits and I can safely say that No.21 was the best yet. The cover was great! I would also prefer to see an extra page of letters in place of the essays. How many more installments of "Life on Another Planet" can we expect? Many, I hope. This story is really an exceptional piece of comic art. Keep up the good work.

David Scherpenhuizen

Silvanushof 9, Maastricht, Netherlands

David: As this issue went to press, Eisner had plotted out the complete "Life on Another Planet" but had not yet determined how many chapters it would require. Rest assured there are still surprises to come...

PRO ARTIST TERRY AUSTIN...

For a long time I have wanted to contribute a drawing to your excellent Spirit magazine. One of the reasons for the delay was the dilemma of trying to think of something new to say concerning Will Eisner's ageless creation. Everyone already knows that Eisner is the supreme graphic tale-spinner and that The Spirit is the most human (as well as the most fun) of any modern adventure characters.

So let me just say that, as one of the current crop of toilers in the field of comic book art, that it's still nice to be able sit down for an all-too infrequent hour and lose yourself in that well-delineated magical world of The Spirit. Having got that off my chest, I thought it only appropriate to let our good friend Denny Colt comment on the current state of the comic book hero (including the X-Men, the series where most of my energy is expended these days.)

Terry Austin

Rye, New York 10580



BLIND

... CAN YOU SEE ANYTHING?

... TRY TO READ THIS CHART... **TRY! TRY HARD...**

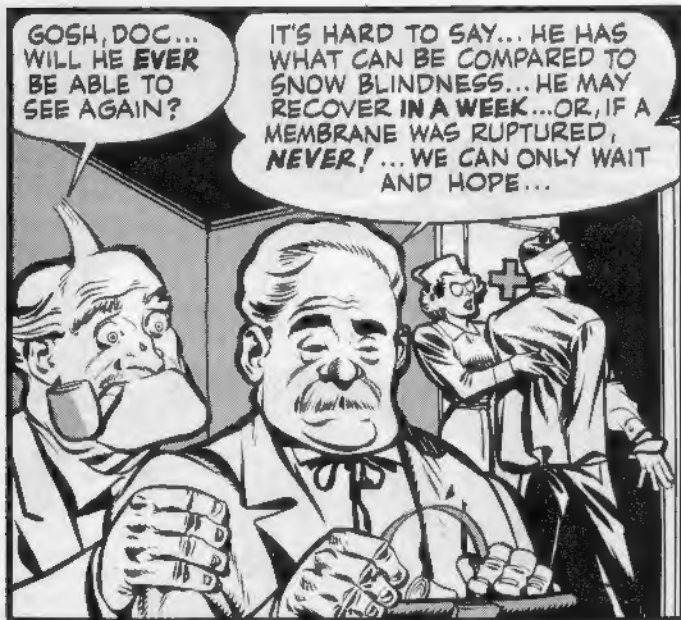
NO USE! I CAN'T SEE A THING!

ALL RIGHT! PUT THE BANDAGES BACK ON!

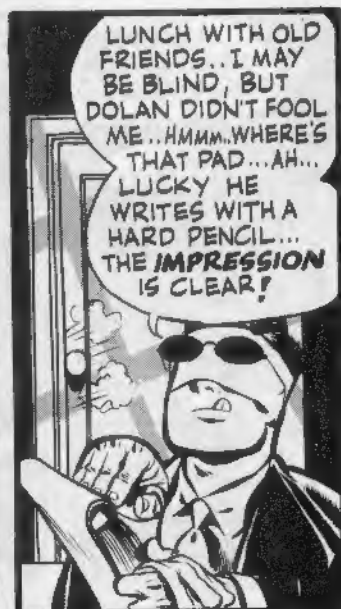
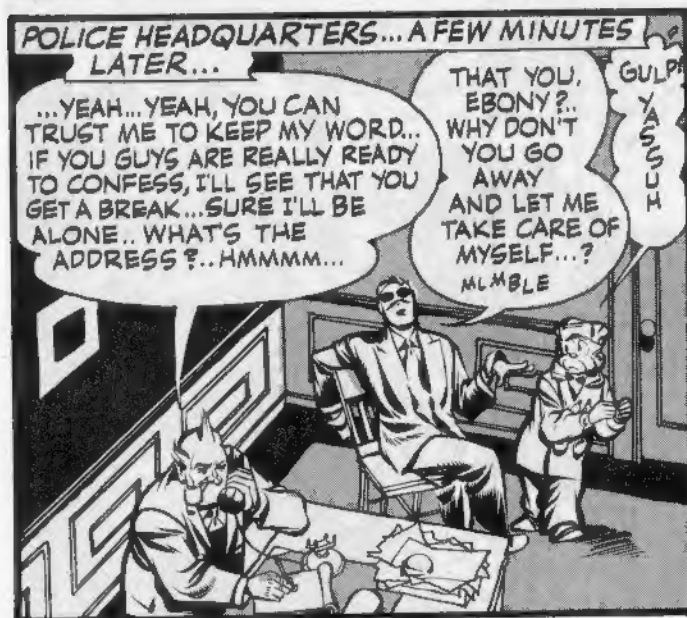
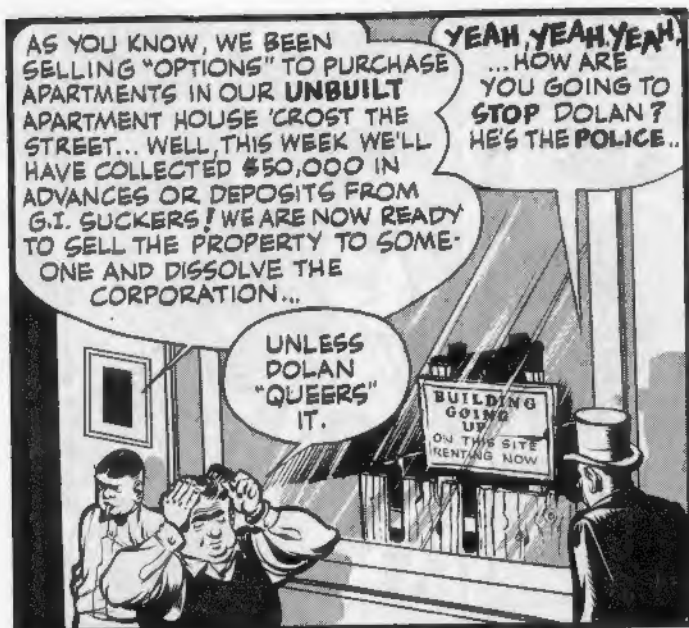
HE'S BLINDED... SEVERE BUT TEMPORARY.. I THINK, DOLAN, YOU HAD BETTER TELL ME HOW IT HAPPENED!

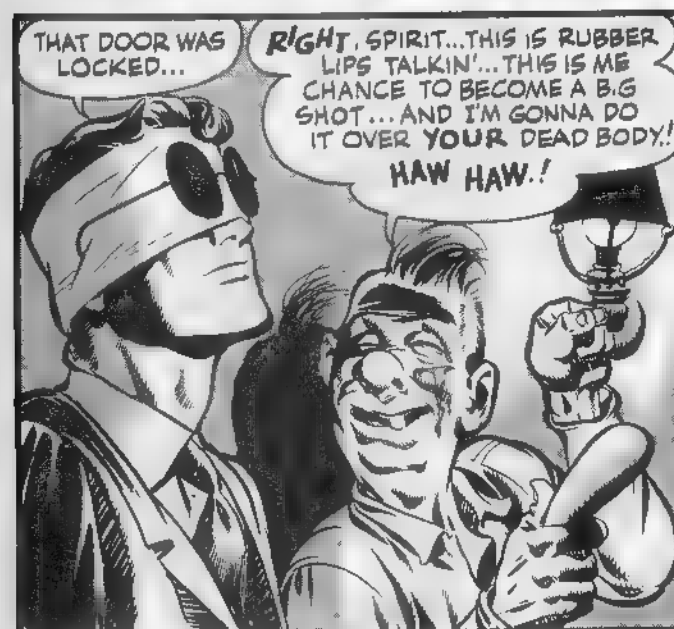
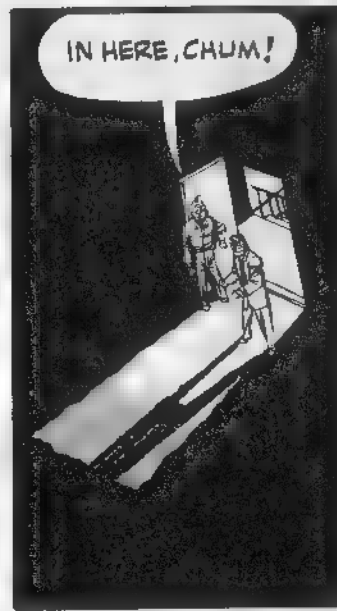
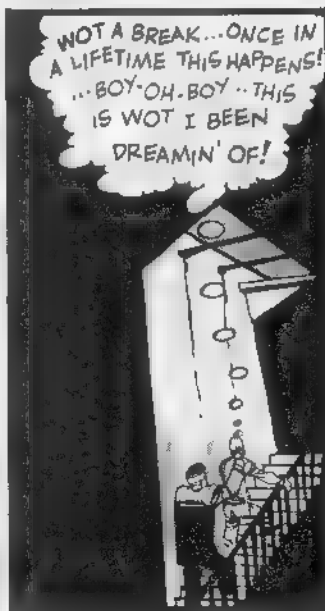
... ABOUT A WEEK AGO, IN A FIGHT WITH THE OCTOPUS, HE GOT TOO CLOSE TO A GUN FLASH...

By WILL EISNER
SPIRIT
SPIRIT
SPIRIT
SPIRIT
SPIRIT
SPIRIT
SPIRIT

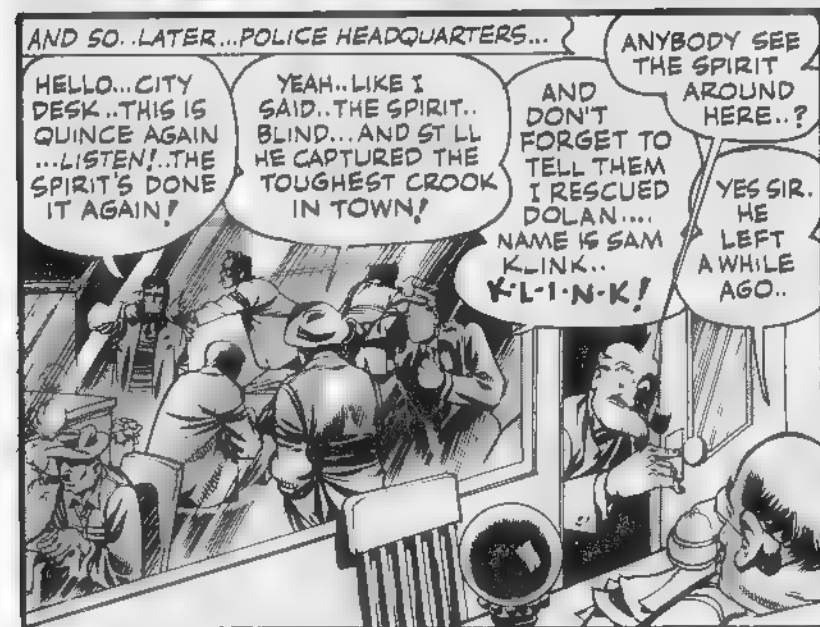








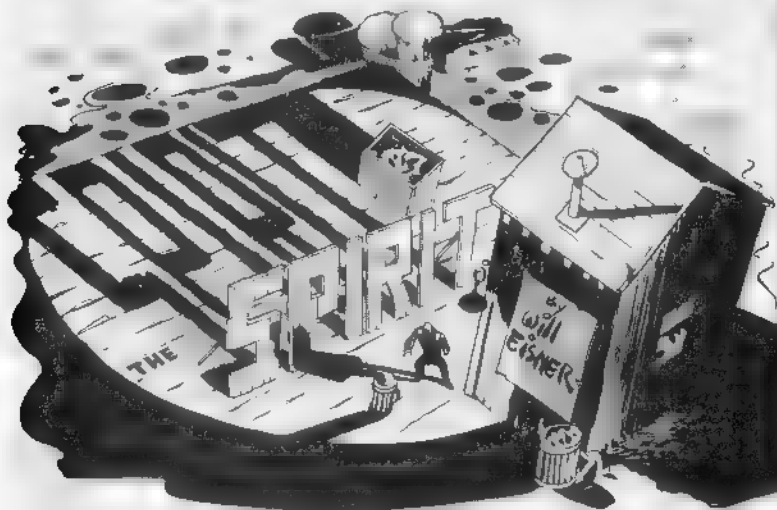




A KILLER AT LARGE

TO THOSE OF OUR READERS WHO HAVE FELT THE DEATH-COLD CLAMMINESS OF THE WATERFRONT... AND HEARD THE STIFLED SOUNDS THAT PRECEDE A CRIME...

WE NEED NOT EXPLAIN THE INTERNAL TERROR THAT FILLS THE COUNTLESS CRANNIES OF THE UNDERWORLD WHEN THERE'S A KILLER AT LARGE...



IT LASTS BUT A MOMENT... A DEATH-RATTLE SPASM OF A MOMENT..



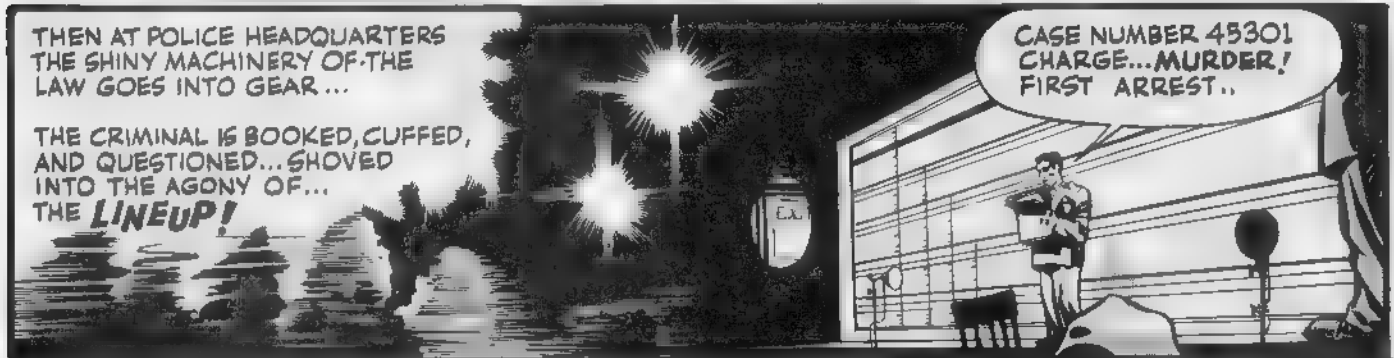
FOR A WHILE THERE IS SILENCE... THEN!... A FRANTIC POLICE WHISTLE... A FLURRY OF FLATFOOTED FEET... SOUND AND FURY... HARK! THE KILLER IS CAUGHT...

... AND SILENCE SEEPS BACK INTO THE AREA....



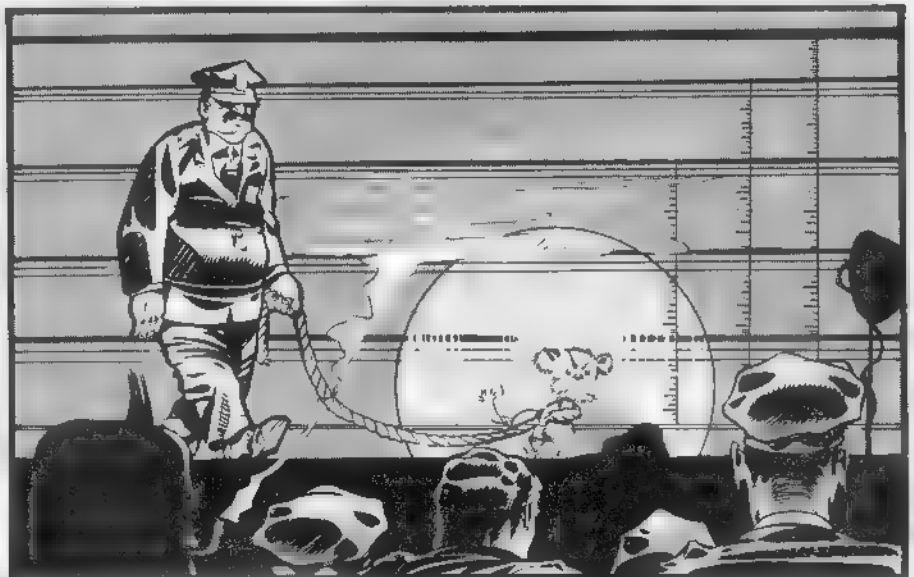
THEN AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS THE SHINY MACHINERY OF THE LAW GOES INTO GEAR...

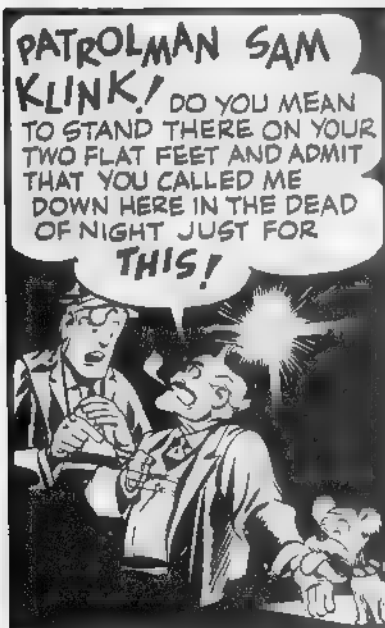
THE CRIMINAL IS BOOKED, CUFFED, AND QUESTIONED... SHOVED INTO THE AGONY OF... THE **LINEUP!**



CASE NUMBER 49301
CHARGE... MURDER!
FIRST ARREST..

O.K... BRING THE KILLER IN !!

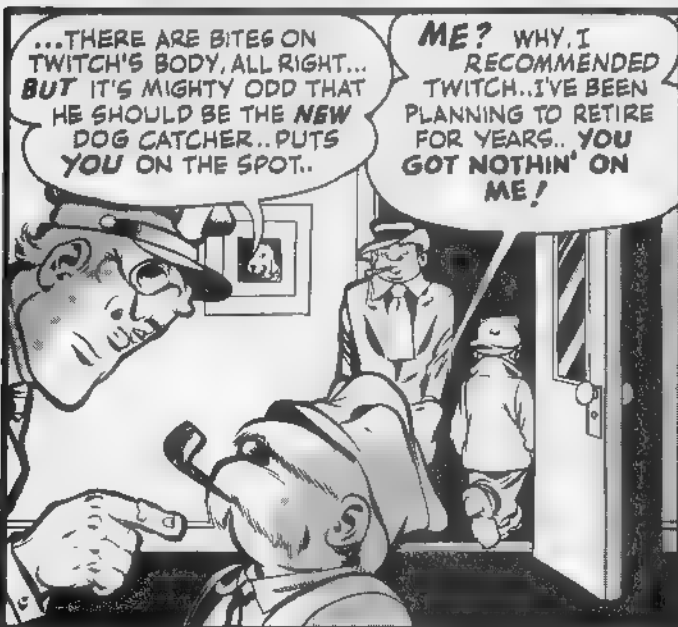




AND SO... THE CRIMINAL IS CAGED...FLUNG INTO A CELL TO AWAIT THE DOOM HE KNOWS MUST COME....

HE PACES THE FLOOR... IT IS AS THOUGH HE WERE HURLED INTO ANOTHER WORLD...A GRIM SOCIETY EAGER TO HAVE HIM SHARE IN THEIR MISERY...





MEANWHILE, IN THE LABORATORY DOWNSTAIRS...

ANYTHING ELSE, SPIRIT?

NOT NOW...
THANKS FOR THE
AUTOPSY, DOC...
EBONY'S CHECKING
FOR ME ON THAT
GADGET WE FOUND
IN TWITCH'S
WOUND.

WHY, IT'S
NUTHIN' BUT
A LIL' METAL
CAP W/ A
SHARP
POINT...

GOOD... NOW
THAT'S ALL WE'LL
NEED TO START
WITH...

SHHH... HOLD
IT... IT'S WARD
HEALY AND
SAM KLINK!

Y'KNOW, KLINK,
I'M A POWERFUL
MAN IN THIS TOWN
..HELPED GET THE
MAYOR INTO
OFFICE.. NOW,
YOU WOULDN'T
WANT TO EMBARRASS
US WITH FALSE
ARREST...

..ER..
..GULP..
..N-NO
SIR!
!

NOW IT'S CLEAR..
THIS DOG DID IT..
WHY NOT LET THE
MATTER REST?... AS
FOR PROMOTIONS..
I'LL PERSONALLY
KEEP MY EYE
ON YOU...

YES
SIR!

HELLO,
KLINK.. GET
A LEAD?

ER.. NO,
SPIRIT.. IT
LOOKS LIKE
THIS DOG DID
IT.. HEH HEH.. OPEN
AND SHUT CASE
..IF MR. BOWSER
DIDN'T DO IT, IT
MUST HAVE BEEN
THE DOG.

WHY EVEN EBONY
AGREES TO.. THAT. EH..



AND NOW, MR. BOWSER,
BE GOOD ENOUGH TO
INSTRUCT A DOG TO GO
TO THIS ADDRESS.. ER..
FRIEND OF MINE
WANTS TO ADOPT
HIM.

SURE!
MIGHTY
NICE OF
YOU TO
FIND
HOMES
FOR THESE
POOR
ORPHANS..

ER.. HRMPF..
NOT AT ALL,
NOT AT ALL..
JUST LOVE
DOGS.. JUST
LOVE
'EM!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

STOP GROWLIN'
OR I'LL KNOCK THE
FLEAS OFF YA..

ON THE EDGE OF TOWN..



O.K...NOW
BEAT IT..



AND IN A FEW MINUTES..

AH...THE
WEEKLY
BRIBE
FUM
HEALY!

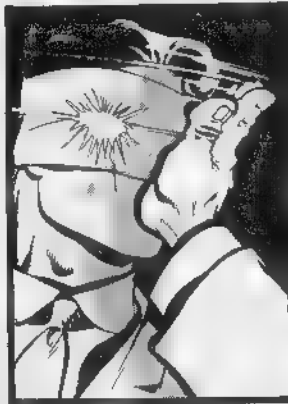
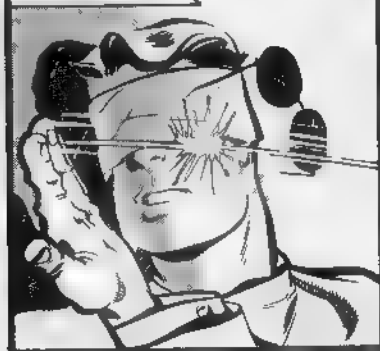


THANKS POOCH
..NOW BEAT IT!

NOW
TO
REPO'T
TO THE
SPIRIT!



MEANWHILE...



FOR A BLINDED MAN,
SPIRIT, YOU'VE TAKEN A
FOOLISH CHANCE TO
TRY SNOOPING ON ME!



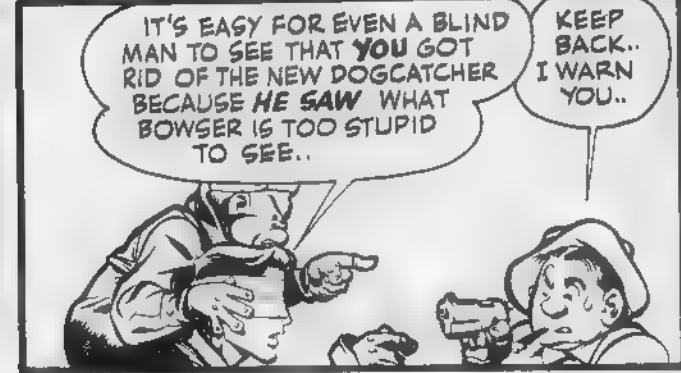
IT'S LIKE YOU SAID, MIST'
SPIRIT...THE DOG'S BEIN' USED
AS A SECRET MESSENGER!

SMART WORK,
EBONY!



IT'S EASY FOR EVEN A BLIND
MAN TO SEE THAT YOU GOT
RID OF THE NEW DOGCATCHER
BECAUSE HE SAW WHAT
BOWSER IS TOO STUPID
TO SEE..

KEEP
BACK..
I WARN
YOU..



MEANWHILE..BACK AT
HEADQUARTERS...

I'M
ASHAMED
OF
MYSELF!



...LETTING THE LURE
OF AN EASY PROMOTION
INFLUENCE MY SENSE
OF JUSTICE... I
DIDN'T HELP YOU,
FELLA...

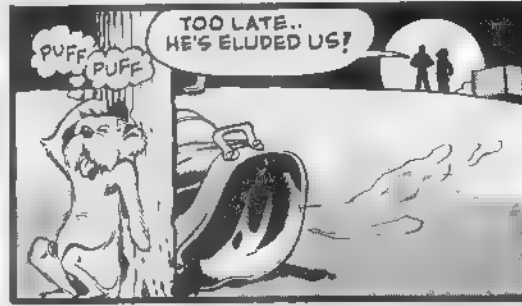
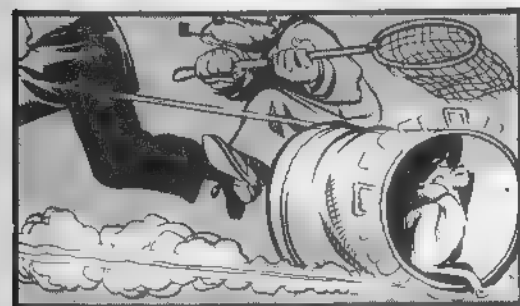
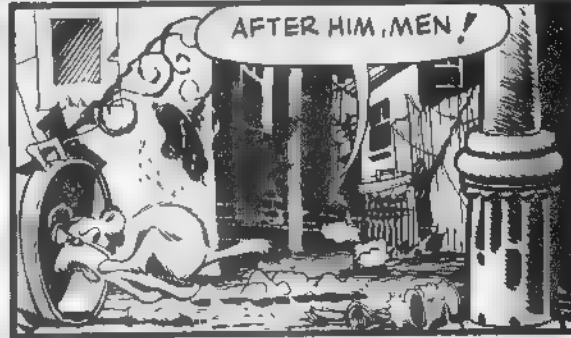
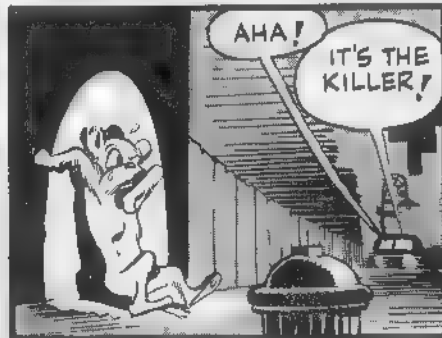
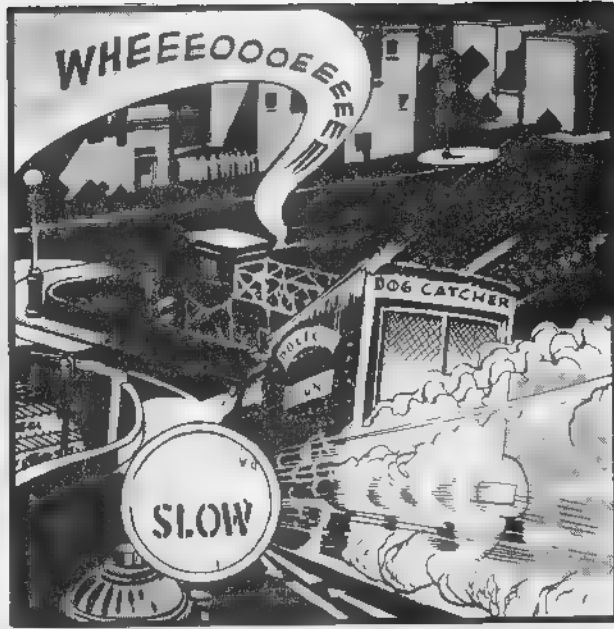


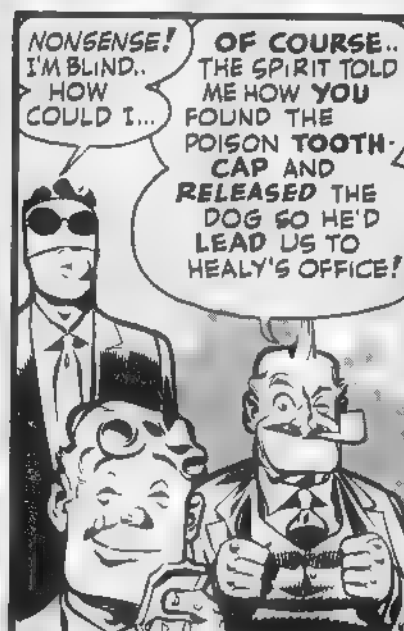
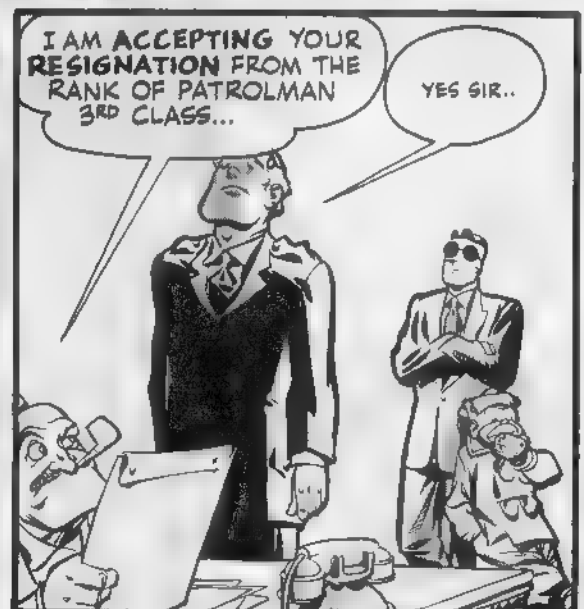
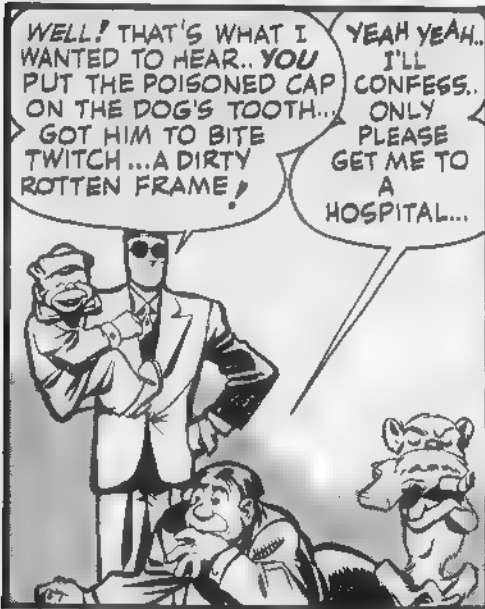
BUT I CAN AT LEAST
GIVE YOU A CHANCE!



BESIDES, IT WONT
MATTER...BY THE TIME
THEY FIND OUT... MY
RESIGNATION WILL BE
ON DOLAN'S DESK!









INTO
THE
LIGHT

THE SPIRIT

By WILL EISNER

TO BE BLIND IS LIKE WALKING IN A CLOUD OF SOFT, WET QUICKSAND, AND AT BEST IT IS A HELPLESS FEELING...BUT TO BE BLIND IN A JUNGLE OF DANGER, TO FEEL THE ELECTRIC PRESENCE OF DEATH, IS UNLIKE ANY IMAGINABLE TORTURE... RIGHT NOW I AM IN A HOSPITAL...*SNIFF=SNIFF=* THE MEDICAL SMELL...THE CLINK OF PORCELAIN TRAYS...THE HUSHED VOICES...

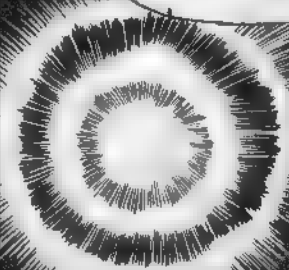
.... I CAN RECOGNIZE SOME VOICES....

PLEASE, DOCTOR
FLOSS...AH KNOWS
YO' C'N CURE HIS
BLINDNESS...

OH, DEAR..
WHY DIDN'T YOU
COME TO ME
BEFORE...?
OH, DEAR...

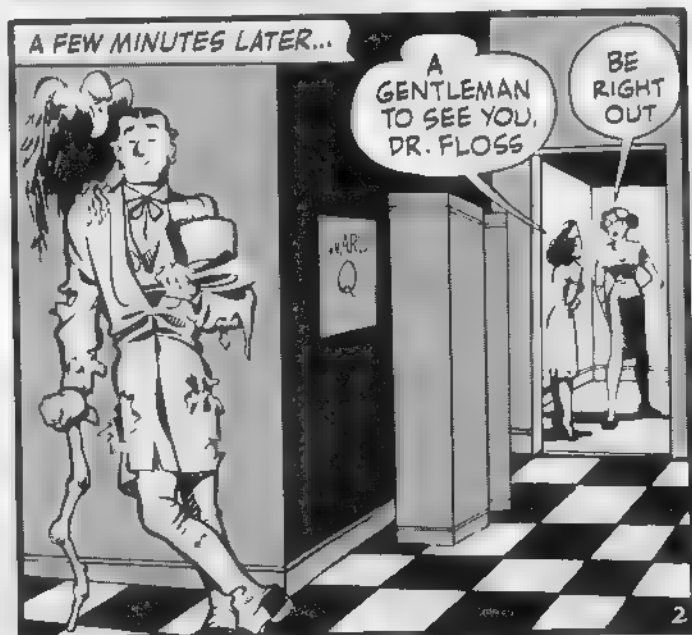
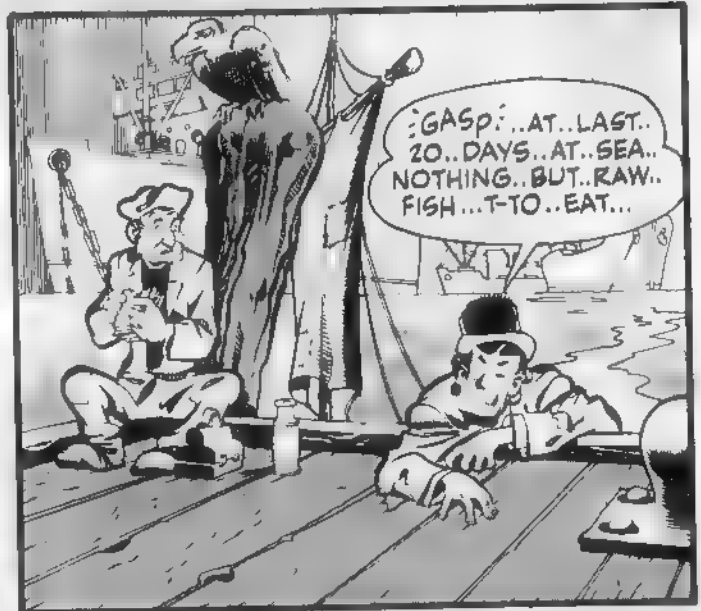
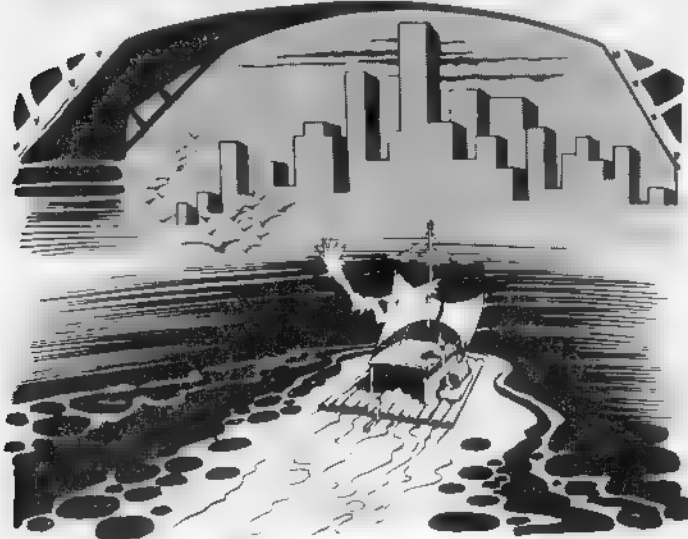
IT'S
OENEY
BEEN 3
WEEKS
SINCE HE
GOT BLINDED
BY A GUN
FLASH.

HMMM... IT'S
NOT SERIOUS.. JUST
ISN'T HEALED YET...
EBONY..





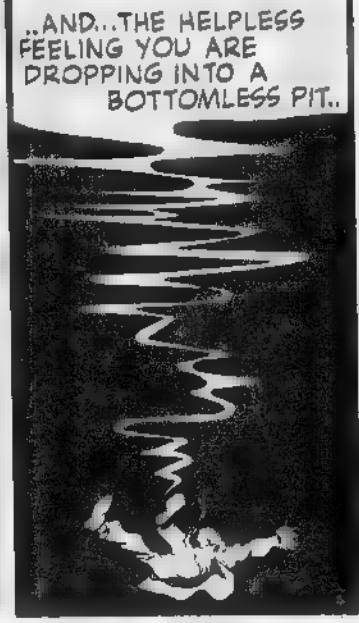
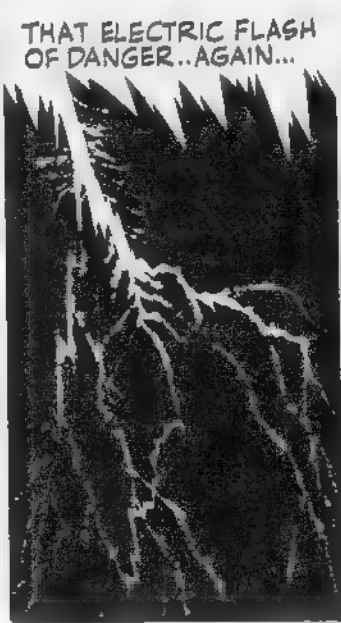
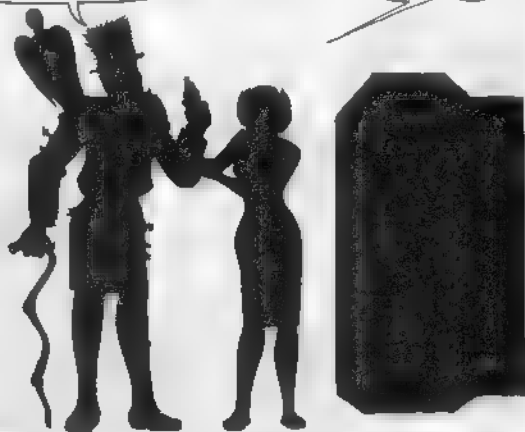
AND ON THE LAST BREATH OF DAY..THE MIRACLE ARRIVES...IN CENTRAL CITY'S HARBOR...





WELL...THE LATE DOCTOR DID NOT STOP HIS WORK...WH..LE ON THE ISLAND HE DEVELOPED A MIRACLE LIQUID THAT IS 100 TIMES BETTER THAN PENICILLIN! ... IT IS MADE FROM THE MOSS PECULIAR TO THAT ISLE.

THAT'S GREAT! LET ME SEE IT!



POLICE HEADQUARTERS..

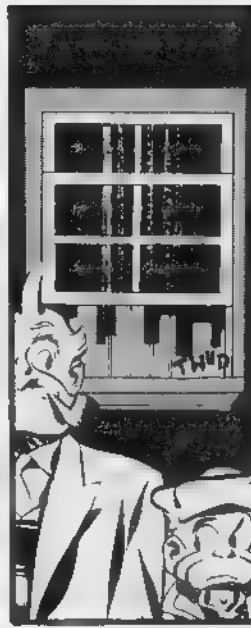
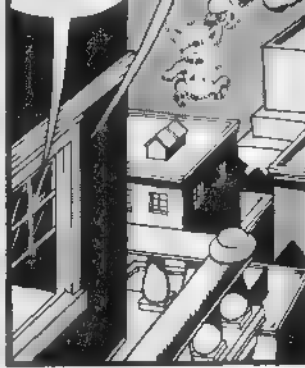
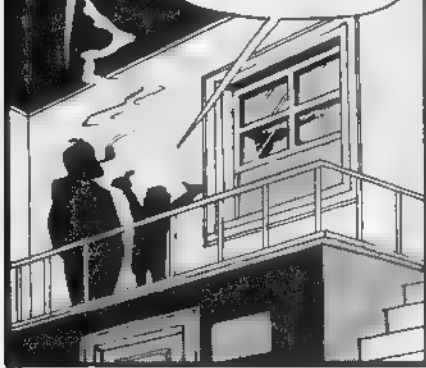
..BY THE WAY, EBONY, WHERE IS THE SPIRIT?

AH DON'T KNOW... AH LEF' HIM AT THE HOSPITT'L... BUT NOW, HE AND DOC FLOSS IS GONE...

HOW ABOUT THE DOG?

..I THOUGHT HE WAS A SEEING EYE!

HE'S GONE TOO!



MEANWHILE..



WELL, JULIA, MY DEAR, WE'LL HAVE QUITE A LITTLE PARTY ON THE VOYAGE BACK TO OUR "ROCK"..



WELL, HEAVE HO AND UP-ANCHOR! THIS HAS BEEN A FRUITFUL VOYAGE.. AMERICA'S BRILLIANT DR. FLOSS AND THE BLIND SAMSON..... AS OUR SLAVE...

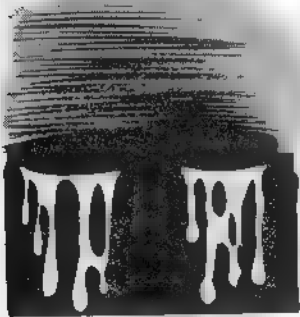


YES..IN SIX MONTHS WE SHOULD CONTROL THE WORLD SUPPLY OF "FLUID X"..THE MIRACLE HEALER.



IT MUST BE THE
NEXT DAY... I WAS
SLUGGED... BUT BY
WHOM? ...
..I JUST WOKE UP..
..SOMEONE HAS
BEEN PUTTING DROPS
IN MY EYES...

.WHERE AM I??



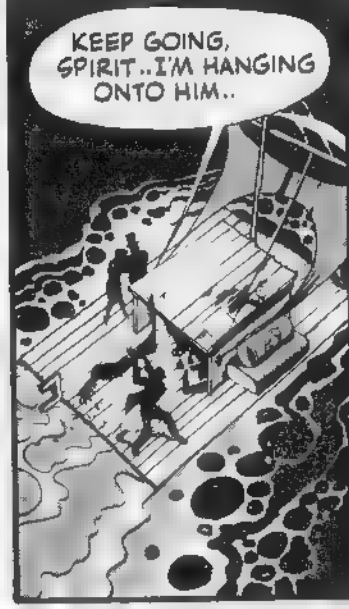
SSH! SPIRIT..THIS IS
DR. FLOSS..WE'RE
PRISONERS ON MR.
CARRION'S RAFT..HOW
ARE YOUR EYES..CAN
YOU SEE? I'VE BEEN
USING THE "FLUID X"
ON YOU...

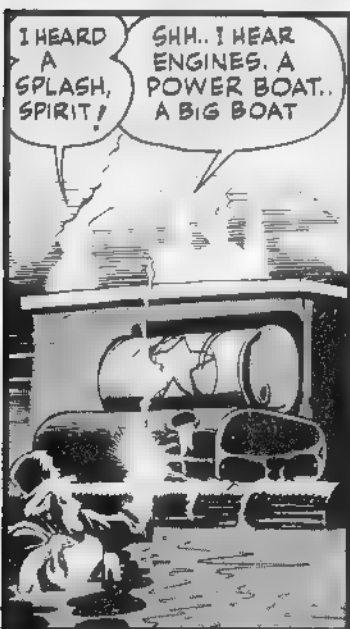
**CARRION! NOW
I REMEMBER ...**

OH, IF ONLY I COULD
SEE ... I MUST DO
SOMETHING..HE HAS
A BUZZARD..GOT TO
KNOCK IT OUT FIRST.



SPIRIT..
DON'T START
A STRUGGLE
WAIT
**LOOK OUT
...THE
BUZZARD!**





GOOD GRIEF.. NOT AGAIN... I MUST HAVE BEEN BLOWN TO BITS ...DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA OF WHAT IT'S LIKE TO REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS? IT'S LIKE CLIMBING UP A STEEP CLIFF!

LOOK HE IS WAKING UP..

SPIRIT.. SPEAK TO US... YOU OK?

NO...MY EYES ARE CLOSED... BUT WHY KID MYSELF... YET MAYBE ..OH..I..I.. I'LL OPEN THEM.. ONE..TWO...

THREE ... FOOEY.. STILL BLIND... STILL..

AH..EBONY.. AND THAT'S DOLAN'S VOICE ..UGH! I DON'T FEEL LIKE TALKING...I'M STILL BLIND..

NO..WAIT! WAIT A MINUTE..

I CAN SEE AGAIN...

HE CAN SEE!

IT WORKED! THE 'FLUID X' WORKED!

AND WE SURVIVED THE BLAST! WHERE'S CARRION, DOLAN?

COUGH..COUGH ..OH HIM. HE MUST HAVE DROWNED WITH THE FLUID'S SECRET I'M AFRAID.

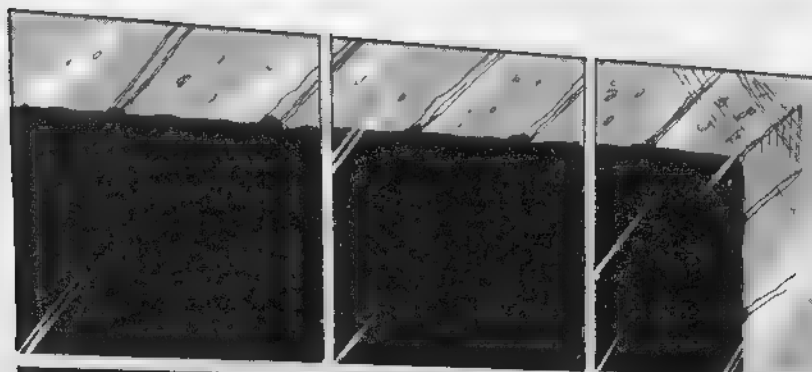
WOTCHA CRYIN' ABOUT, EBONY?

WHOS CRYIN'... AH.. AM JES' GOT A SPECK IN MY EYE, THASSALL

AND FAR OUT AT SEA, ANOTHER JOYOUS REUNION IS CELEBRATED..

JULIA.. JULIA... YOU'RE ALIVE..OH, THANK GOODNESS..YOU'RE ALIVE ..MY LITTLE FEATHERED DARLING..

RAWK



...WHAT ASIGHT...
A SUPINE CITY CONCERNED
WITH MERE EXISTENCE - WHILE
A CIVILIZATION ON A DISTANT
PLANET IS TRYING TO MAKE
CONTACT - AN IMPACT THAT
COULD CHANGE THE DESTINY OF
HUMAN KIND!! YET, WE CRAWL
ABOUT DOING LITTLE THINGS...
ARE WE, AFTER ALL, ONLY
ANTS ON A PIECE OF
SPACE DEBRIS CALLED
EARTH??

MR. MACREADY
WILL SEE YOU
NOW, MR.
BLUDD.

PLEASE
WAIT HERE
MR. BLUDD.
A SECRETARY
WILL ESCORT
YOU.



LIFE
ON
ANOTHER
PLANET
4
PRE-
LAUNCH



THIS IS MR. MBOBE... YOUR NEW FINANCE MINISTER... ETERNAL PRESIDENT

CAN WE POSSIBLY PAY ON ANY DEBTS TO THE OTHER NATIONS MR. MBOBE ??

INTELLIGENCE REPORT
SIGNAL FROM PLANET BERNARD

NO, WE OWE OVER 100 BILLION TO 5 NATIONS MOSTLY IN THE WEST...

WE SHALL SECEDE FROM THE PLANET EARTH
... WE WILL NO LONGER OWE MONEY TO ANYONE!

SO... THEN WE SHALL FREEZE ALL FOREIGN PROPERTY... CLOSE OUR BORDERS AND...

I DECLARE OUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE PLANET BERNARD!
INVITE THE STAR PEOPLE CULT TO SIDIAM!..
WE ARE NOW A COLONY OF ANOTHER PLANET!!

THANK YOU, MISS.

JUST TAKE THE ELEVATOR TO THE FIRST STOP, MR. BLUDD

CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK



MR. MACREADY?

AHH WELCOME MR. BLUDD... COME ON IN!

TAKE A SEAT NEXT TO ME... YOU'LL BE SITTING IN ON A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TRIPARTATE COMMISSION

WHAT'S THE TRIPARTATE COMMISSION?

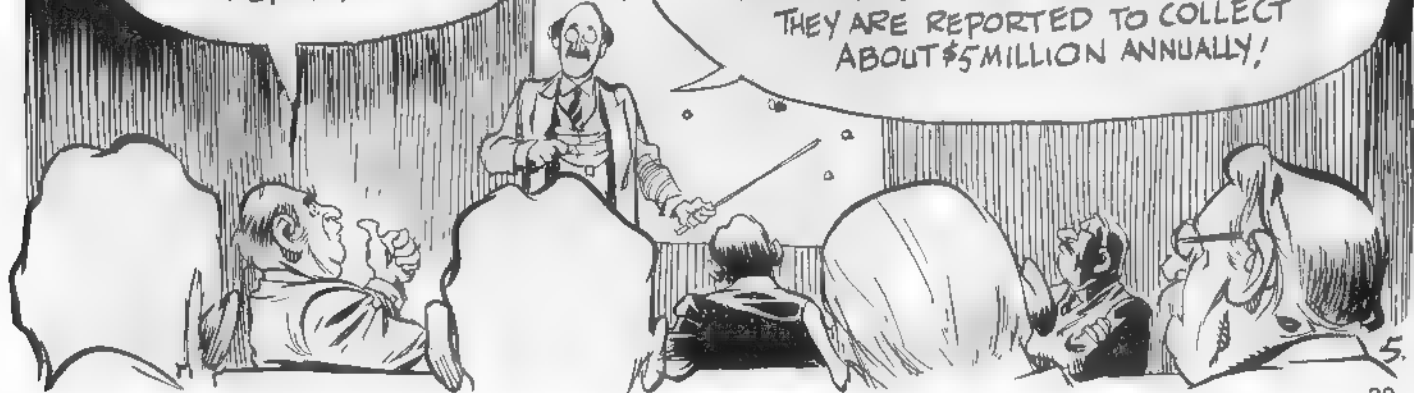
AN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF LEADERS IN ALL FIELDS OF HUMAN AFFAIRS... QUITE INFLUENTIAL!! SHHH, WE'RE CONDUCTING A REVIEW...

... AND THESE ARE THE MAJOR WORLD-REPORTING POINTS RESPONDING TO OUR SURVEY...



WHAT IS THE GENERAL RESPONSE TO THE SPACE SIGNAL REPORT?

SURPRISINGLY INDIFFERENT!... OF THE 3000 CULTS IN NORTH AMERICA, FOR INSTANCE, ONLY A FEW HAVE DEALT WITH THE SUBJECT. NOTABLY, THE **STAR PEOPLE**, WHICH NOW NUMBERS 10,000 FOLLOWERS IS THE MAJOR GROUP! THEY ARE REPORTED TO COLLECT ABOUT \$5 MILLION ANNUALLY!



THANK YOU, DR. COLE... AND WHAT ABOUT THE ESTABLISHED RELIGIOUS GROUPS?

OFFICIALLY... A WAIT-N'-SEE ATTITUDE PREVAILS. THERE ARE ABOUT 350 ARTICLES IN PUBLICATION ABOUT THE RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF INTELLIGENT LIFE ON ANOTHER PLANET.

ECONOMIC PATTERNS ARE UNAFFECTED, MOSTLY - BUT SOME SMALL COMPANIES ARE PROMOTING SPACE RADIOS... TOYS!!

FINANCE ??

INDUSTRY?

... LITTLE IMPACT! OH, A MARKED RISE IN ABSENTEEISM - BUT HOW MUCH WE CAN ATTRIBUTE TO THIS IS QUESTIONABLE !!

... AND SCIENCE ??

A RASH OF ABSTRACT RESEARCH! ... UNIVERSITIES ARE ACTIVE. THE NATIONAL SCIENCE RESEARCH PEOPLE ARE MOST CONCERNED! THEY SEE OUR PLANET, EARTH, IN DIRE NEED OF ENERGY SOURCES AND AGRICULTURE SPACE! IN THE NEXT CENTURY, THE CONSENSUS IS THAT WE **MUST MAKE CONTACT** WITH WHO-OR-WHATEVER **IS ON THAT PLANET!**

WHAT DO WE REALLY KNOW ABOUT THAT PLANET OR ITS SUN?

WELL, FIRST OF ALL THE NATURE OF THE SIGNAL IMPLIES AN **ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY**... AT LEAST EQUAL TO THE TASK OF SENDING A SIGNAL!

OUR ASTRONOMIC DATA, ADMITTEDLY SLIM, PERMITS ONLY A **GUESS!** ... WE THINK IT MAY HAVE **TROPICAL** ATMOSPHERE, MOISTURE, HYDROGEN OR OTHER GASSES ... WE KNOW **LITTLE ELSE!**

NOW, SIR...
**SUPPOSE WE
COULD TRANSPORT
AND IMPLANT
LIFE ON THAT
PLANET TO
INSURE OUR
PRIMACY??**

- NONSENSE!!
WE CAN'T RISK
A HUMAN LIFE
ON SO FRIVOLOUS
AN IDEA!

**NOT HUMAN
LIFE AS WE KNOW
IT - BUT A LIFE-
FORM FABRICATED
FOR THE
PURPOSE!**

WE HAVE
SUCCEEDED IN
CREATING A **CELLULAR
MUTATION... A HUMAN
CELL-WITH-A-PLANT
CELL TO FORM AN
ORGANISM** THAT CAN
SURVIVE ON A
PLANET LIKE
BERNARD, AND...

**DR. JONES...
YOUR REPORT
... PLEASE!**

... WE BELIEVE THAT WITH THE
INSEMINATION OF **PEPTIDES**, SUCH AS
THE **ENDORPHIN** (Substance P) ONE OF THE
CHEMICALS FOUND IN HUMANS WHICH
PROVIDES REACTION TO DISTRESS LIKE;
PAIN, PLEASURE ETC... AND **VASOPRESYN-**
A PEPTIDE WHICH FUNCTIONS AS A
PROTECTION OF MEMORY - ALSO, BY ADDING
BRADYKININ AND **NEUROTENSIN** (WHICH IN
HUMANS EFFECT BODY SECRETION
AND TEMPERATURE) WE CAN INDEED
**SIMULATE A LIFE-FORM SUITABLE
TO YOUR PURPOSE.**

**GOOD
LORD,**

**THIS
IS SCIENCE
FICTION!**

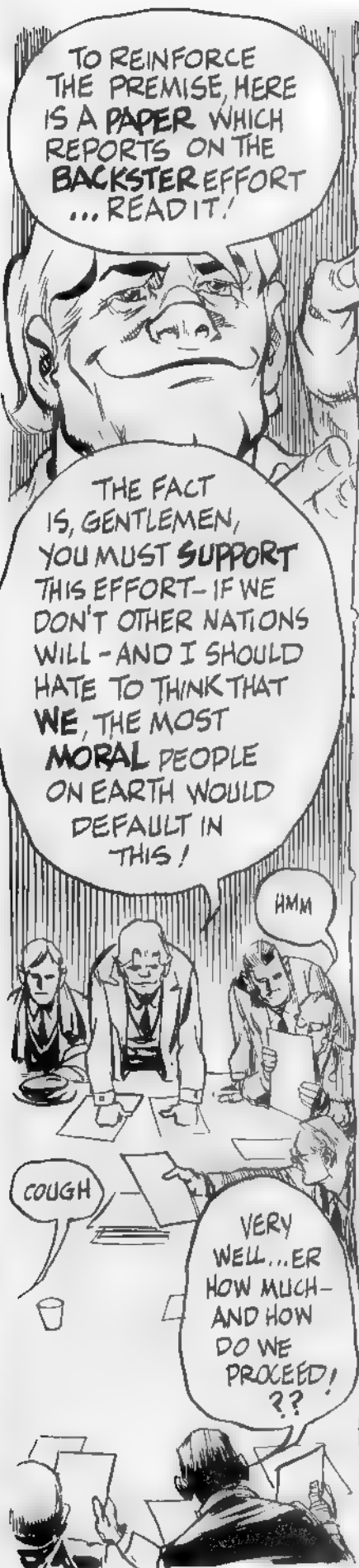
GASP!

GASP

NONSENSE

WE ARE
OUT OF OUR
AREA OF
COMPETENCE!
... IT IS A **NATIONAL
RESPONSIBILITY**
NOT OURS...

GENTLEMEN...
GENTLEMEN!! YOU ARE
MISTAKEN... THIS IS JUST AN
**EXPEDIENT... WE ARE JUST
ACTING PROMPTLY UNTIL
HUMAN BEINGS CAN
MAKE THE JOURNEY IT
IS ECONOMIC FORESIGHT
... PURE AND SIMPLE!**



On the morning of February 2, 1966, one of America's foremost lie-detector experts made a fascinating discovery. The man's name was CLEVE BACKSTER; the strange revelation—which was to initiate a continuing series of the most unusual experiments in the history of horticulture—began when he decided to find out how long it would take water to travel from the roots to the leaves of an office plant. To satisfy his curiosity, he attached a pair of polygraph electrodes to a leaf of his *dracena massangeana*. The result stunned him. So much so that it has altered his life from that day.

What Backster expected to find was a decrease in electrical resistance, induced by increased moisture. Instead, to his astonishment, he observed a psychogalvanic reflex (PGR) pattern closely resembling that of a human under emotional stimulation!

Mr. Backster was far from a novice in the use of the polygraph, an instrument employed to detect emotional changes in humans and, thus, betray their true reactions to questioning.

Mr. Backster had, in fact, served as a C.I.A. polygraph section head for a number of years, and regularly taught police, private investigators and government personnel how to use it. An acknowledged expert, he was not likely to be mistaken about what he saw: his plant was apparently displaying *emotion*! To verify the amazing P.G.R. reading, he tried a number of experiments. First, he dropped brine shrimp into boiling water, in the presence of plants. The P.G.R. reading showed violent reaction. It appeared that some sort of extrasensory broadcast of danger was being transmitted to the plants by the dying shrimp cells. He repeated the killing experiment with other forms of life—fresh fruit and vegetables, yeast, mold, amoebae, paramecia, sperm—and, each time, the plants recorded the same violent reaction on the polygraph! Backster concluded that killings in the immediate vicinity of the plants proved that they share a characteristic with animals: each stakes out a territory and reacts to phenomena occurring within that space.

Further experimentation revealed that plants seem to possess a sort of "adaptive logic" or "memory," since repeated killings in their territory produced a diminishing reaction. This demonstrated, he concluded, that the subject plants gradually perceived that the killing of the shrimp did not endanger *them*. Incredible as it may seem, this indicated that plants can *THINK*!

As the result of several thousand tests of polygraphed plants since 1966, Backster has made the following observations:

PLANTS REACT SELF-DEFENSIVELY! When they feel threatened, they respond like animals or humans. According to P.G.R. readings, they can actually faint!

PLANTS RECOGNIZE HUMAN ENEMIES! They appear capable of loving, hating or fearing people. In one experiment, a physiologist (who customarily destroyed her plants when her testing was completed) entered Backster's laboratory and his plants "froze up" with fear. When she departed, they relaxed.

PLANTS DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH THEIR MASTERS! Monitoring showed that Backster's plants continued to react to his thoughts even when he moved to another room, or a distant building. Using automated equipment and precisely synchronized stopwatches, he proved that his plants registered an emotional reaction at the exact moment he *decided* to return from New Jersey to his New York lab ... a distance of about 15 miles. Further tests demonstrated that no shield, Faraday Cage, lead container or similar enclosure could block out or interfere with the extrasensory communication link between plant and master.

THAT BRINGS US
AT LAST TO THE POLITICAL
ASPECTS OF THIS REVIEW!
... IF **WE** ARE THE FIRST TO
POPULATE THAT PLANET WITH
OUR LIFE FORM WE INSURE
WESTERN **DOMINANCE** IN
ANY FUTURE COMMERCIAL
EXPLOITATION!

MR. BLUDD, A
CIA AGENT AND
AN ASTROPHYSICIST,
HAS JUST RETURNED
FROM THE **SOVIET**
UNION... WHAT IS THE
SITUATION THERE
JIM??

THE **USSR** HAS
ALREADY SENT A
RESPONSE SIGNAL
TO THE PLANET VIA
BEAMED NUTRINOS.

AHEM...
EXCUSE
ME... **MR.**
MACREADY

GENTLEMEN...
I HAVE A NEWS FLASH... **THE**
COUNTRY OF SIDAMI HAS
SECEDED FROM THE FAMILY
OF NATIONS... IT PROCLAIMS
ITSELF A **COLONY** OF THE
PLANET BERNARD... A
FORTUNATE DEVELOPMENT!

THEY'RE
CRAZY!

HA HA HA
HA HA HA

HA HA HA
HA HA HA

HA

...**NOT SO CRAZY!**
I PROPOSE WE ESTABLISH
A **LAUNCHING** COMPLEX IN
THAT **COUNTRY** AND SEND
OUR **'IMMIGRANTS'** OFF
FROM THAT COUNTRY!

THE **U.S.**
GOVERNMENT
WILL **NEVER**
SUPPORT US!
...NOR WOULD
ANY OTHER
NATION

THE POLITICIANS
WILL CHEW A
PROJECT LIKE
THIS TO BITS

OBVIOUSLY!
THAT'S WHY
SIDAMI IS
THE PERFECT
LAUNCHING
PAD!

THIS
IS BIGGER
THAN PETTY
POLITICS...
MULTINATIONAL
CORPORATION
WILL PROVIDE
THE TECHNICAL
KNOW-HOW!!
IT IS AFTER ALL,
A **COMMERCIAL**
ENTERPRISE

... AND
MR. BLUDD
WILL DIRECT
THE OPERATION

JUST A
MOMENT!
...HOLD ON!

A
PROBLEM
MR. BLUDD
?!

THIS IS INSANE... IT'S IMMORAL!
...TO GAIN A COMMERCIAL
ADVANTAGE YOU ARE PUSHING
OUR SOCIETY INTO AN
ADVENTURE THAT WILL
INFLUENCE THE FUTURE OF
LIFE ON EARTH WITH
NO CONCERN FOR THE
CONSEQUENCES!

...NOT A
MAN IN THIS
ROOM EVEN
QUESTIONED
THE MORALITY-
OF CREATING
A NEW LIFE
FORM!

COUNT
ME OUT
GENTLEMEN
!!

IT APPEARS WE SHALL
HAVE TO PROCEED
WITHOUT MR. BLUDD!



NO! NO! NO!
DON'T BE NAIVE, BLUDD...Y'DONT
WALK IN HERE AND GET AN
APPOINTMENT WITH THE
PRESIDENT!

I'LL SEND A
MEMO UP THRU
CHANNELS...
BEST I CAN DO
!!

NOT GOOD ENOUGH
...MULTINATIONAL
CAN ONLY BE STOPPED
BY PRESIDENTIAL
ACTION - **FORCEFUL**
AND **IMMEDIATE!**

THIS
IS NOT
AN
ORDINARY
MATTER!

TICK
TICK
TICK

TICK
TICK
TICK

NOT MUCH
I CAN DO ABOUT
THAT, BLUDD!

... WELL, I
CAN... I CAN
LEAK IT TO THE
PRESS !!

OKAY,
OKAY,
OKAY!

TICK
TICK
TICK

TICK
TICK

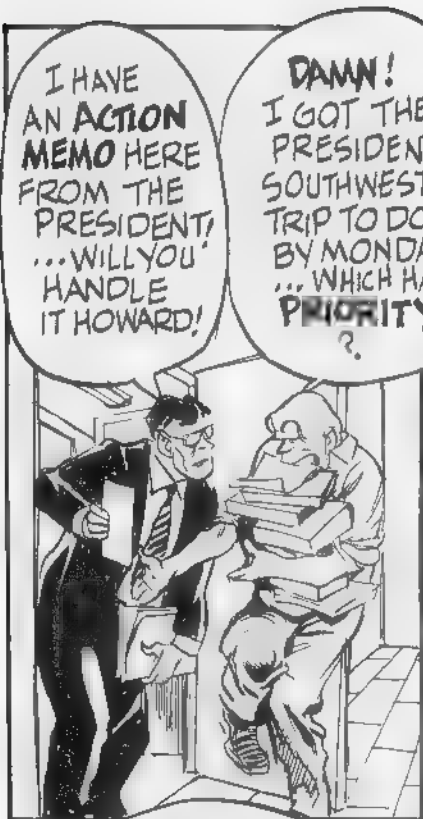
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

YES, MR.
PRESIDENT
?

JASON, I
HAVE A REPORT
FROM THE CIA
THAT TROUBLES
ME!

THIS MULTINATIONAL
CORPORATION IS
PURSUING THE **SPACE**
SIGNAL ON ITS OWN!!
... I WANT THEM
STOPPED!! - SEE
TO IT!

YES
SIR!

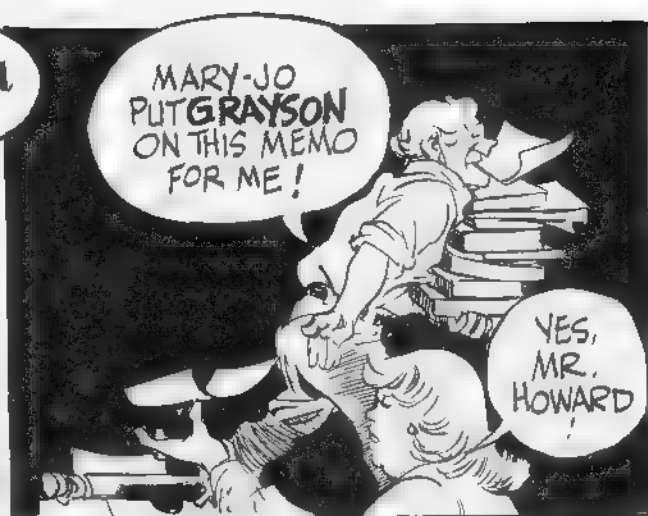


I HAVE AN ACTION MEMO HERE FROM THE PRESIDENT! ...WILL YOU HANDLE IT HOWARD!

DAMN! I GOT THE PRESIDENT'S SOUTHWEST TRIP TO DO BY MONDAY! ...WHICH HAS PRIORITY? ?

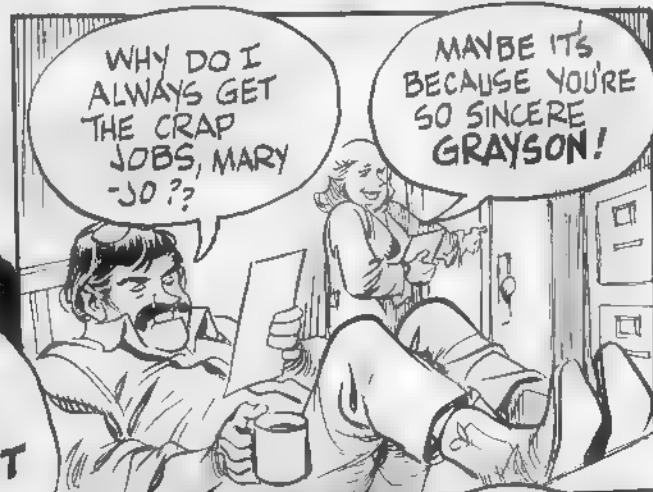


REELECTION OF COURSE!



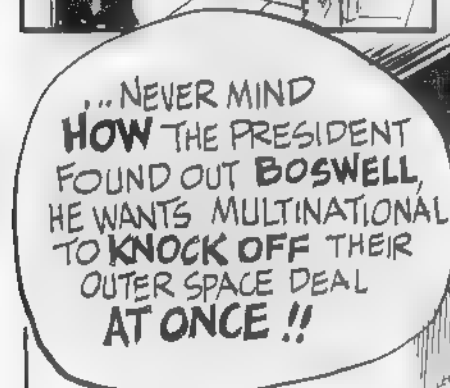
MARY-JO PUT GRAYSON ON THIS MEMO FOR ME!

YES, MR. HOWARD

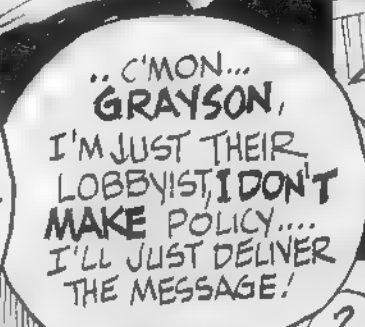


WHY DO I ALWAYS GET THE CRAP JOBS, MARY-JO ??

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE SO SINCERE GRAYSON!



...NEVER MIND HOW THE PRESIDENT FOUND OUT BOSWELL, HE WANTS MULTINATIONAL TO KNOCK OFF THEIR OUTER SPACE DEAL AT ONCE !!



..C'MON... GRAYSON, I'M JUST THEIR LOBBYIST, I DON'T MAKE POLICY.... I'LL JUST DELIVER THE MESSAGE!



RING RING RING RING RING



RING RING RING RING RING



GRAYSON HERE...OH, HELLO SENATOR! ...SURE, SURE... I'LL BE DOWN IN A MINUTE !!



AH, GRAYSON...NICE OF YOU TO COME OVER SO PROMPTLY. AHHAH ABOUT THIS MULTINATIONAL THING THE PRESIDENT WANTS STOPPED ...WE, ER, HAVE A LITTLE PROBLEM HERE...COUGH?

MULTINATIONAL IS A VERY SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTOR TO OUR PARTY... WE'VE GOT TO LOOK AT THIS IN PERSPECTIVE GRAYSON!

YOU SEE, MY BOY, THIS IS AN ELECTION YEAR... THE PRESIDENT WILL NEED ANY INDUSTRY SUPPORT WE CAN GET HIM!

BESIDES... IN THE LONG VIEW, MULTINATIONAL IS ACTUALLY ACTING IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST!



BUT, SENATOR... IT'S A... AN EXECUTIVE ORDER !!

TUT, TUT, ... GRAYSON, MY BOY, THIS IS NOT A FASCIST STATE! WHY, WE JUST DON'T ORDER A RESPECTED MEMBER OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR AROUND WITHOUT DUE PROCESS!

DO YOU MEAN THAT I'VE GOT TO TELL THE PRESIDENT HE CAN'T STOP THEM?

NOW, GRAYSON... I DIDN'T SAY THAT! SURELY A BRIGHT YOUNG HARVARD MAN LIKE YOU CAN FIGURE A WAY TO COMPLY WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL ORDER AND STILL NOT VIOLATE FREE ENTERPRISE !!

HMMM I SUPPOSE I CAN INSTITUTE A SUIT THROUGH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE... HMMM BUT THAT'LL TAKE A YEAR OR TWO TO PROCESS!

GOOD IDEA! ... AND BY THEN A LOT OF THINGS MAY CHANGE! THERE'S AN ELECTION YEAR AHEAD!

... BY THEN YOU MAY BE BACK IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR ... LOOKIN' FOR A JOB - I'M SURE MULTINATIONAL WILL REMEMBER YOUR DEFT HANDLING OF THIS

PERSPECTIVE MY BOY, PERSPECTIVE !!

THANK YOU SENATOR.







APPARANTLY
YOU'RE IN SOME
ONE'S WAY, BLUDD.
... HMMM A HIT MAN
-NO IDENTITY CARD!
SO, MAYBE THE CIA
OR MULTINATIONAL
WANT TO SHUT
YOU UP... EH?



YOU'RE
A SOVIET
AGENT NADIA
...WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?

I'M NOT HERE AS
A SPY... I CAME TO RECRUIT
YOU IN BEHALF OF THE
UNAFFILIATED PEOPLE...
PLEASE, AT LEAST HEAR
ME OUT!

THE CONTACT
WITH BERNARD MUST
BE MADE ON A GLOBAL
BASIS... NO ONE
NATION HAS THE
RIGHT TO DO IT
ALONE!

I
AGREE
!

...THEN,
YOU MUST
WORK WITH
US!

WHO IS
US??... SOME
CULT GROUP?? ARE
YOU ASKING ME TO
COMMIT TREASON?



ISN'T THERE A
HIGHER RESPONSIBILITY?/
SURELY, THERE IS A MORALITY
GREATER THAN BLIND
LOYALTY TO A POLITICAL
ENTITY!!

OH, BLUDD,
BLUDD... YOU
ARE A SCIENTIST
AND A HUMAN BEING
THINK MAN
THINK!

...NATIONS
ARE CONCERNED
WITH NATIONAL
WELFARE... WE ARE
TALKING ABOUT
GLOBAL
WELFARE!





WHAT
DO YOU
SAY...
BLUDD
?

WILL YOU?
... WILL YOU?

YES!

I HAVE COME FOR A
FAVOR DON CANNELONI...MY
SISTER CARLA HAS BEEN
**MURDERED BY HER HUSBAND
VITO LUPO**... THE HONOR OF
OUR FAMILY HAS BEEN
VIOLATED... I CLAIM
VENGEANCE!

...YOU GO
HOME ROCCO
...**WE** GONNA
TAKE CARE
OF IT... DON'T
WORRY!

...WE MUST MOVE
QUICKLY, NOW, **MARCO!**
AN ADVANCE TEAM MUST
GO TO **SIDIAMI** FOR THE
LAUNCHING... WE'LL NEED A
VOLUNTEER FOR THE LAB'S
FIRST NEW-LIFE-FORM
CONVERSION!

HMMMM I'VE
GOT A NEW FOLLOWER
NAMED **VITO LUPO** -
HE KEEPS ASKING FOR
IMMEDIATE TRAVEL
INTO SPACE!

VITO LUPO
YOU HAVE BEEN
CHOSEN... YOU ARE THE
FIRST TO GO
... **CONGRATULATIONS**
!!

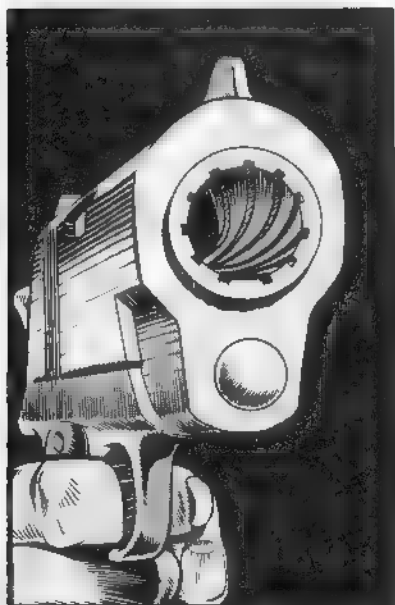
THANK
YOU
THANK
YOU!

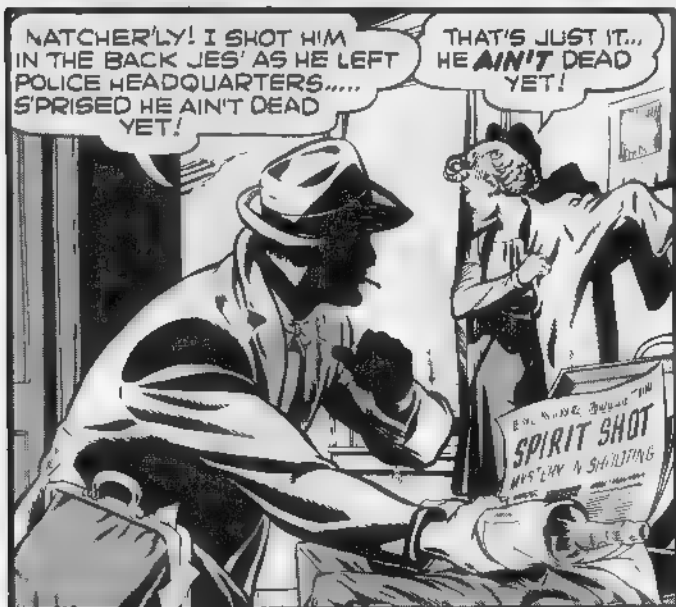
THE SPIRIT

In the far reaches of the imagination...in the countless catacombs of man's conscience are many traps...It's these that often fight alongside law and order...and make so infrequent a thing as the

"PERFECT CRIME"!!

BY WILL EKNER





SEVERAL WEEKS LATER, ON AN UNCHARTED, TINY ISLAND SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC!

WELL, **MAGGIE**, WADYA THINK?



OKAY, BUT TH' SPIRIT WAS STILL ALIVE...AND IT WOULDN'T BE HARD TO FOLLOW US BY PLANE!



SHADDAP!

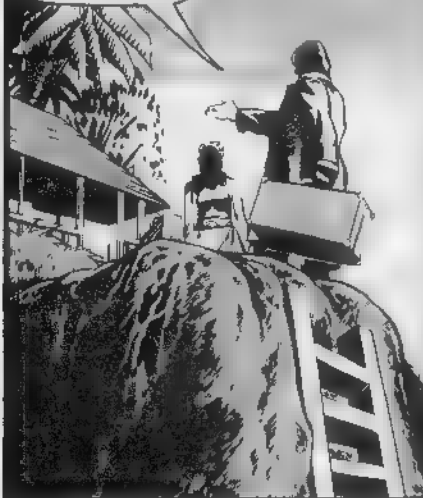


I'M SORRY, **MAGGIE**! IT'S ONLY THAT THAT GLY I SHOT PUT A CURSE ON ME AND IT SORTA SITS IN THE BACK O' MY MIND!

F'GET IT, **BAXTER**!



WE'RE **SAFE** HERE! THE ISLAND AIN'T EVEN CHARTED!



AND IF HE DOES MANAGE TO FIND US HERE...I'VE GOT **THAT ONE** FIGGERED OUT, TOO!



SEE, MACHINE GUNS ALL WIRED BY ELECTRICITY SO'S YOU AND I CAN FIRE THEM FROM INSIDE!

GEE, **BAXTER**, A REGULAR, PRIVATE SIGFRIED LINE!

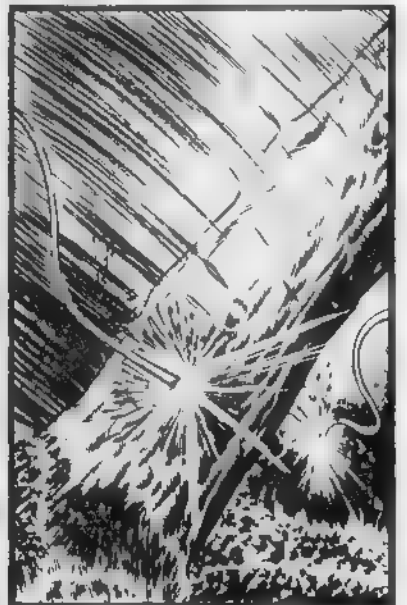


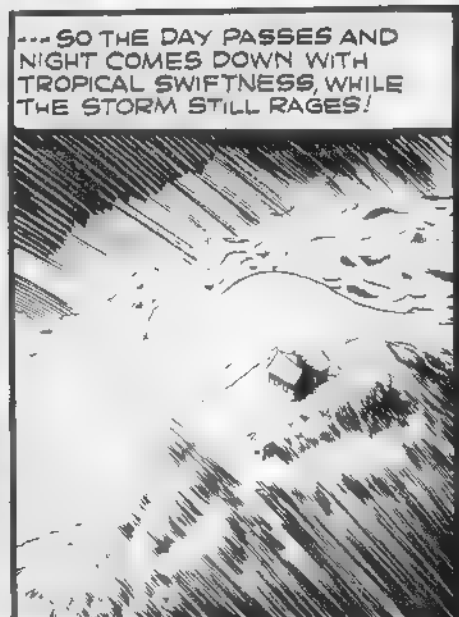
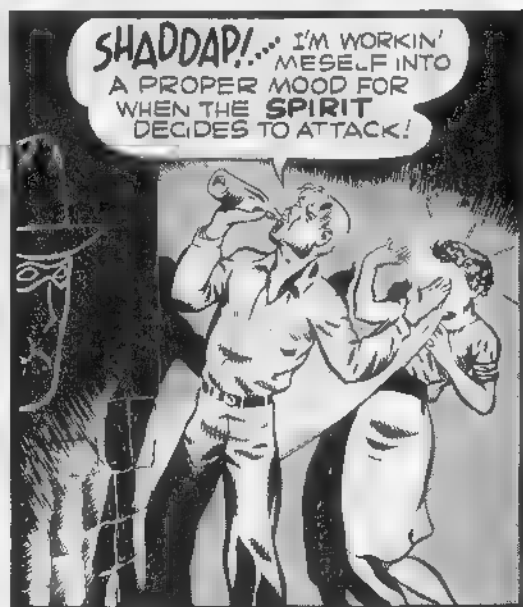
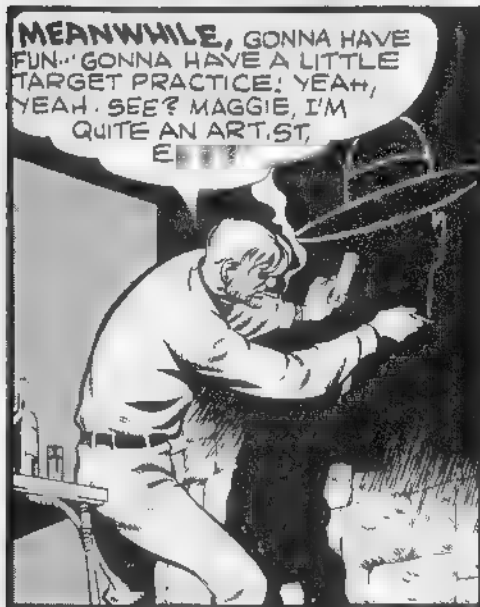
ALL WE GOTTA DO IS SIT TIGHT FOR A FEW MONTHS AND THEN RETURN TO THE STATES AS TWO **WEALTHY** FOLK WHO DISCOVERED A GOLD MINE!

YEAH, GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, **BAX**!



3.







...THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS AND **NO SLEEP!!** Y'CAN'T KEEP THIS UP FOREVER, LIVIN' ON HOOCH, **BAXTER!**

HE'S ON THIS ISLAND SOMEWHERE! HE'LL SHOW UP AS SOON AS I DROP OFF T'SLEEP! HE'S WAITIN'... **I KNOW!**



IF ONLY THE RAIN'D LET UP... **COME OUT AND FIGHT, YOU COWARD!**

STOP SCREAMIN', **BAXTER** OR Y'LL DRIVE ME NUTS, TOO!



...AND LOOK AT YER HAND...IT'S **BLACK** WITH INFECTION! WHY'N'TCHA LET ME DOCTOR IT?

MUMBLE-
MUMBLE-
MUMBLE-!



GANGERINE! THAT'S WHAT Y'GOT... IF Y'R NOT CAREFUL... IT'LL FILL Y'R SYSTEM WIT' POISON...--AN' KILL YA!

NO, TH' SP RIT'LL NEVER GET ME... I GOT IT ALL FIGURED OUT!



LEGGO!! SO THAT'S YOUR GAME? YOU'RE IN CAHOOTS WITH THE SPIRIT...YER GONNA POISON ME...? NO, NO! THIS IS ONLY IODINE!

NO, NO! THIS IS ONLY IODINE!



IT'S POISON!! I DON'T TRUST YA...I DON'T TRUST ANYONE!!



MAGGIE!! I DIDN'T MEAN T'... I... **MAGGIE!!** @*# SHE'S DEAD!!



IT'S YOUR FAULT, SPIRIT... YOU MADE ME DO IT!



...AND NOW I AIN'T GONNA WAIT FOR YOU...I'M GONNA COME AFTER YOU... MESELF!

ALL NIGHT THE STORM RAGES! MADLY... AND SCREAMING AT THE TOP OF HIS LUNGS, BAXTER SCOURS THE LITTLE ISLE!

I'LL FIND YA!!!
I'LL FIND YA!!



THE ALARM WIRE! IT'S BROKEN... IT WAS A FALSE ALARM! HEH, HEH, HEH, IT F-FOOLED ME!

AND THE NEW DAY DAWNS CLEAR AND BRIGHT!! A BATTERED, TIRED, SICK BAXTER EMERGES FROM THE BUSH!!

MAGGIE!... KOF... KOF...
IT WAS A FAKE! WE
WAS FOOLED...
WE....

MAGGIE! ME HAND... I
CAN'T FEEL IT NO MORE!!
IT'S NUMB! IT... IT... I GOT A
FEVER I FEEL
SICK!!

GASP...!

Back in
CENTRAL CITY,
thousands
of miles
away-!

HOW IS
HE NOW,
DOC?

HE'S GOT AN IRON
CONSTITUTION, BUT,
HE SHOULDN'T HAVE
TRIED TO CATCH UP
WITH THOSE CROOKS!
THAT TRIP TO THE
WHARF ALMOST
FINISHED
HIM!!

THE DOC
SAYS YOU'LL
BE OKAY,
SPIRIT!

I COULD KICK
MYSELF FOR
LETTING BAXTER
ESCAPE!

O WELL, YOU
CAN'T CATCH
'EM ALL THE
TIME!!

YOU
SHOULD
KNOW,
DOLAN!

Publisher's Note: Sharp readers instantly noticed that we ran Chapter Three of the "Outer Space" serial in the last issue and called it Chapter Two. For that mistake, we apologize. The real Chapter Two follows this page. To show readers how an editorial mistake like this could happen, Will and I invite you to follow us deep underground into the legendary...

EISNER VAULT



Outer Space

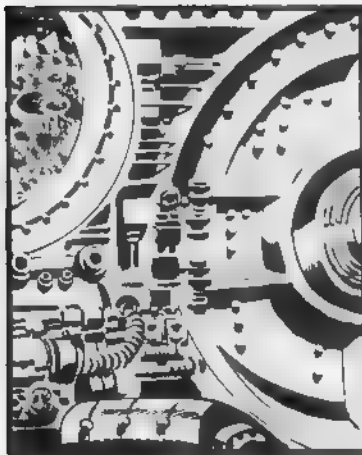
MISSION...THE

MOON

BY
Will EISNER

This is a thing of people... that's what they forget when they talk about space ships and moon "missions." The rockets will get you there, and the scientists can keep you alive once you're up there, but still the success of it lies with people ... and the DANGER lies with people ...



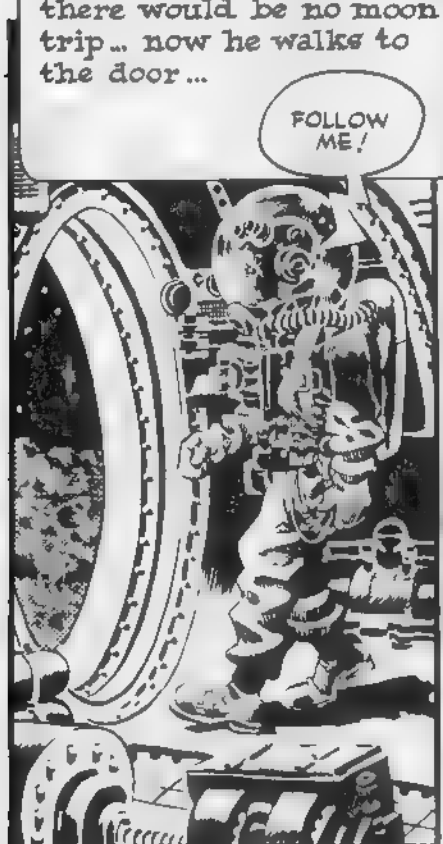


You wait, shrinking back into the ship. Who will be the first?



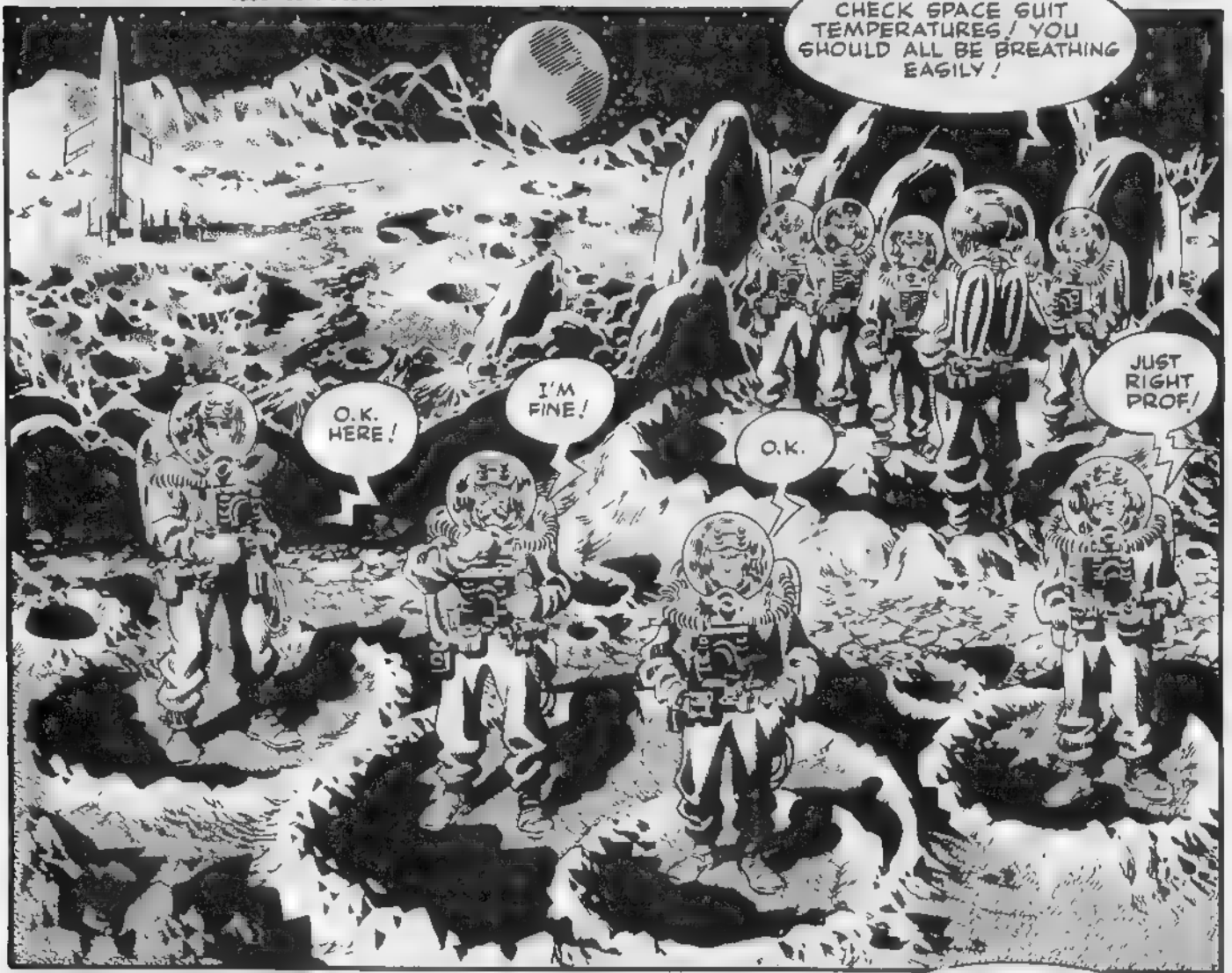
That is Professor Skol, "the man" ... without him there would be no moon trip... now he walks to the door...

FOLLOW ME!



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the moon...



You watch the men
leap high up ...float
like clumsy fish...and
then land...

HEY
DUTCH!
LOOKA
ME!

NEVER
SEEN
NUTHIN'
LIKE IT!

This is Spider... small,
a good mechanic, one
of the convicts pardoned
for the trip...

I BUSTED
D' WOILD'S RECORD,
DUTCH! I
C'N OUTJUMP
ANYBODY!

This is Dutch...
quiet, cautious,
another convict...

GO BE
A COWBOY,
I'M GOIN'
BACK TO TH'
SHIP!

This is Ringo,
another convict...

WHERE
YA GOIN'
DUTCH?

BACK TO
THE SHIP!
THIS PLACE
GIVES
ME THE
CREEPS!

Scobey, a convict...

ME
TOO! I'LL
GO
WIT' YA!

Kress, a convict...

I'M
GOIN'
TOO!

You get through leaping
and turn to see how the
others are making out...
What you see is a small
stream of men, all
moving back to the
ship...

YOU
MEN!
STOP!



WE'VE GOT ALL OUR EQUIPMENT TO UNLOAD!

YOU UNLOAD IT! THIS JOINT GIVES ME THE WILLIES!

IT'S SO G!!T!!T!!
QUIET!
I WISH THERE WAS A NOISE OR SOMETHIN ..



This is Delf, captain of the ship... stiff, uncompromising..

WAIT.. THEY'VE STOPPED!

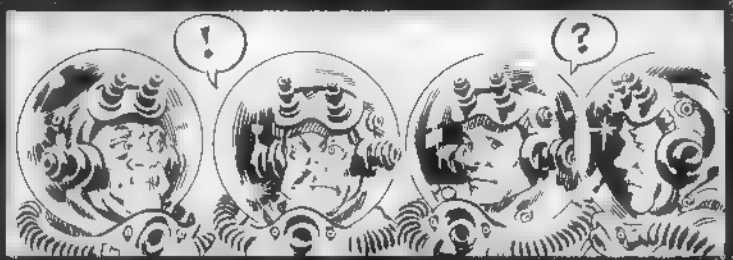
DO YOU THINK HE CAN HANDLE THEM, PROFESSOR? IF HE CAN'T...

You talk calmly to the men, explaining away their fears... These are not criminals... these are frightened men...

WE'VE GOT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF WORK TO DO... IF WE DON'T DO IT NOW, IT WILL TAKE THAT MUCH LONGER TO BE DONE!

THEN WE'LL NEVER GET OUT OF HERE...

WELL?



HE'S RIGHT!

SURE!

LE'S GET TO WORK AND STOP ARGUING!

YEAH!



You watch Kress clutch at his visor, you see his face whiten, then turn blue...

and then...

BOOM



OBVIOUSLY
A PUNCTURE
IN HIS
SPACE SUIT!

BLEW
UP!

THESE
SUITS AIN'T
SAFE!

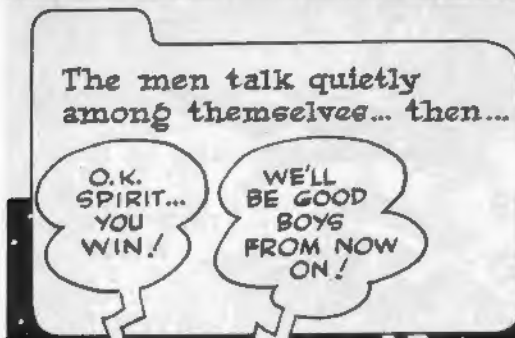
I DON'T
WANNA DIE!

LET ME
GO!
WHAT ARE
YOU
DOING?!

TAKE US BACK
TO EARTH,
PROFESSOR!
TAKE US BACK
NOW
OR I'LL
PUNCTURE
YOUR
SPACE
SUIT!



You wait... helplessly, you watch them hover over the professor, waiting for him to make a decision...



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an Issue!**

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